The National

Future Farmer

June-July, 1976

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The National
Future Farmer
Owned and Published by the Future Farmers of America

Volume 24 Number 5
June-July, 1976

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A Word With The Editor

The copy of *The National FUTURE FARMER* you are reading is different from any you will ever receive. What makes it different is the special section on the Bicentennial—the FFA magazine's major thrust of the Bicentennial year. A look into the past, an assessment of the present, a projection into the future. They are all there.

This issue will go to over 500,000 homes. It will be read by FFA members, their mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, friends, Alumni and many other supporters of FFA—a total readership of over two million people.

Our agricultural heritage is unequaled anywhere else in the world and throughout the ages of history. No other country has been blessed with fertile soil, abundant sunshine and water in the combinations and quantities that we enjoy in the United States. These resources teamed with an industrious people, creates a land of plenty that cannot only feed its own population but also has enough left over to contribute substantial quantities of food to help feed the rest of the world. This is a part of the heritage we enjoy in American agriculture which is touched upon in the Bicentennial section. And FFA can rightfully claim to have been an important part of it.

We hope you will enjoy this issue and will want to keep it around for a while. We hope, too, it will make you aware of our proud heritage in the FFA, agriculture and America—and our responsibility to help keep them strong. May we join together in that inspiring task and pass them on to the next generation a little better than we found them.

Wilson Carnes

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The Cover

Our cover finds an FFA member on a trip back in time—to the spring of 1776. He'll find things are quite a bit different on the farm. You can go along too, as part of our Bicentennial Special. It begins on Page 23. Explore our heritage, find how FFA is celebrating our 200 years of American independence, and read some expert opinions on the future from a special FFA panel. Go ahead, you and America aren't getting any younger.

Cover photo by Gary Bye, taken at Turkey Run Park, McLean, Virginia

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News in Brief

The FFA

FFA MEMBER'S HANDBOOK TO BE PRODUCED—A new FFA member's Handbook is now being developed as a special project of the National FFA Foundation financed by the Production Credit Associations (PCA) and the Federal Intermediate Credit Banks. The new Handbook will be a completely new approach with more information to help members set and achieve goals in the FFA.

LARGEST WEA GROUP PREPARES TO TRAVEL—Sixty FFA members, largest group ever will be taking part in the FFA's Work Experience Abroad Program this year. Each of the participants will spend three, six or twelve months living and working on a host farm in Europe, Australia, New Zealand, or Brazil. Fifty participants will leave in June.

1976—A YEAR OF COMMITMENT—That is the theme for the National FFA Alumni Association membership campaign for this year. Chapter presidents and advisors were sent promotional material earlier this year. A record 64 life memberships were received during the month of April. Life members now exceed 700 and it is expected that the 1976 goal of 776 Alumni life members will be reached soon.

AMERICAN FARMER HANDBOOK—A new American Farmer Handbook has been printed which is designed to assist degree applicants in filling out the American Farmer degree application. The Handbook is 50 pages in length and filled with numerous examples and photos. The books are being bulk shipped to the states in mid-May.

NEWS MEDIA KIT—Now in one easy-to-use booklet, chapters will have access to sample news releases for preparing news articles to recognize winners in FFA Proficiency Award programs. The releases are all "fill in the blank" style. The kits will be shipped to state offices for distribution.

500,000 IN 50—The goal of one-half million FFA members by 1977, the fiftieth anniversary of the FFA is close to reality. The membership count as of May 6 showed there were 495,683, an increase of 30,503 from the 1974-75 school year. The official total membership will be released in June, after the final count is made and verified.

NATIONAL OFFICER VISITS JUNIOR FARMERS—Elton Bouldin, National FFA Vice-President representing the Southern Region, was a guest of the Junior Farmers Association of Ontario, Canada, at their Provincial Conference and Annual Meeting in March. Also pictured are from the left, Richard Harrison, State FFA Secretary in New York, Randy Rauser, from Alberta Young Adults, and Donald Mode, President of the Junior Farmers Association.

FOR 200 YEARS, NOBODY HAS.

In 1775, eight ships flying this flag prepared to defend our colonies. In the 200 years since, the Navy has never stopped working to keep foreign nations from treading on democracy.

Of course, there have been a few changes. Today, our ships range from aircraft carriers to nuclear submarines to hydrofoils. Today, we continue to safeguard democracy all over the world. And today, a sailor can learn to be an expert in skills like radar, aviation mechanics, nuclear propulsion or advanced electronics.

Today's Navy can train you in more than 60 career fields. And give you the opportunity to meet new people, continue your education, and possibly even see the world. Your Navy recruiter can tell you what training you're qualified for. Speak to him or call toll free 800-841-8000. (In Georgia, 800-342-5855.)

The Navy. Like America, it's come a long way in 200 years.

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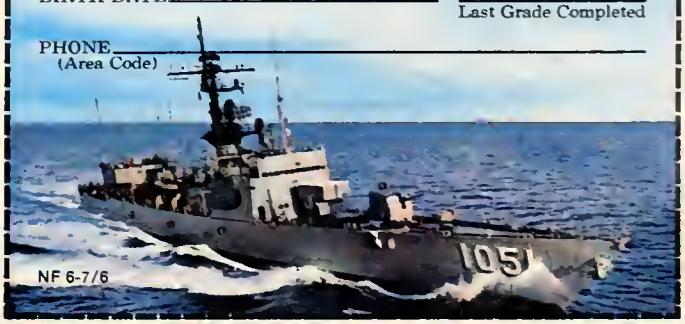

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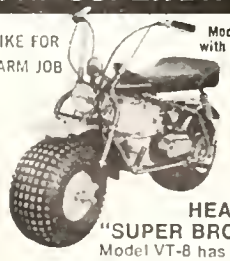

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FREE CATALOG

Looking Ahead

Agriculture

FORD PROCLAIMS NATIONAL FARM SAFETY WEEK—The week of July 25-31 has been proclaimed National Farm Safety Week by Gerald R. Ford. The theme of this year's observance, sponsored by the National Safety Council and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is "Educate for Safety." Accidents in 1975 claimed the lives of approximately 5,500 farm residents and caused about 500,000 disabling injuries. "Education is the key to anticipating trouble before it starts," says NSC officials.

PROSTAGLANDIN INTRODUCED—The Upjohn Company has introduced the first agricultural prostaglandin product in the United States. According to Upjohn officials the introduction of Prostin F2 alpha represents a major breakthrough in pharmaceutical technology. This prostaglandin product will be used by veterinarians to aid horse breeders in the timing of estrus and breeding management problems. The use of Prostin F2 alpha will bring most difficult-to-breed mares into estrus, and help control timing in normally cycling mares.

FARMERS MUST COMPLY WITH OSHA—Farmers have until June 7 to comply with new federal safety standards for guarding moving machinery parts on certain farm equipment. Employers must provide guarding for all power take-off drives on all farm and field equipment, regardless of date of purchase. Also by June 7, and at least annually thereafter, all farm employee operators must be instructed in safe operation and servicing of tractors, field implements and farmstead equipment that they operate.

YOUNG WORKERS NEED CERTIFICATE OF EXEMPTION—Youths under 16 seeking employment off the family-operated farm during 1976 must hold a certificate of exemption or be in violation of federal regulations. Regulations which govern employment of youth 14 and 15 years of age in certain hazardous agricultural occupations, require a specific training program. Employers hiring youth that are not certified are subject to a penalty fine of $10,000. Contact your county extension agent's office for information on how and where to get proper training.

BICARBONATE INCREASES MILK PRODUCTION—Results of recent Kansas State University tests show that feeding sodium bicarbonate with processed grain to the average dairy herd can provide sufficient milk increases to make its use economically feasible. Cows producing 50 lbs. or more milk daily at the start gave 5.07 lbs. more fat-corrected milk daily on the supplemented ration. Recent studies also show promise for improving rate of gain for beef cattle on a baking soda supplemented diet.

HEARING LOSS NOTED AMONG FARMERS—Recent Michigan State University hearing checks on 370 volunteers show that about half the farmers tested exhibit a greater hearing loss than expected, compared to non farmers. For the majority, hearing loss is probably related to their occupation. Farmers may prevent noise-related damage by wearing proper ear protection. The protection reduces noise intensity while allowing the person to hear normal conversation and equipment. Hearing damage may come from tractors, air blast orchard sprayers, harvesters, grain mills, grain dryers, chainsaws and other intense sounds.

DID YOU KNOW—the typical American dairy farmer frequently works 15 hours a day? If he belonged to a labor union and was paid on the basis of a 40-hour work week, he would go on overtime about noon each Wednesday.

This Nylon 66 is one great-lookin', great-shootin' 22. Take it from a Hunter who knows.

Jim "Catfish" Hunter doesn't believe in wasting pitches. He doesn't believe in wasting words, either. Ask him what makes our Remington Nylon 66 such a great, dependable rifle, and he puts it plain and simple:

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The 66 will last you a lifetime and then some because its barrel is rugged forged ordnance steel. And its stock is extra-tough Du Pont "Zytel" nylon that won't fade, chip, warp or crack.

Take it from "Catfish" Hunter. For quality and value right out of the box, you can't beat a Remington Nylon 66. It's from America's oldest gunmaker—and still made in the U.S.A. See one at your local firearms dealer's now. And be sure to write for your free Remington catalog to: Remington Arms Company, Inc., Dept. 459, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06602.

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Putting Leadership To Work

"As an FFA member, you receive something that a lot of people will never get. . ."

By Ron Hauenstein

LEADERSHIP training, like a pitchfork, is without value until it is put to work.

Just as the barnyard callous-maker can be hung on the wall to collect dust, so can the hours of classroom instruction and leadership skills available to FFA members be relegated to a closet in the mind.

Gary Schulz is an FFA member who knows how to use both a pitchfork and his leadership training.

Throughout high school and college, Gary has maintained a high degree of involvement in student government. Not satisfied with the role of bystander or benchwarmer, Gary has compiled this record of service in student politics.

He was secretary as a sophomore and president as a senior of the student body at Reardan, Washington, High School. At Spokane Falls Community College, he was elected executive vice president and later became president of the student body when his superior resigned. Transferring to Washington State University to complete a degree in agricultural education (which he received in June), he ran for and won a seat on the student assembly in the spring of 1975.

Gary has been willing to put his name on the ballot so frequently because of a strong conviction he has developed to utilize the leadership training he received through the FFA.

"As an FFA member, you receive something that a lot of people never will get, the tools that are essential to being a good leader," Gary believes. "FFA members should realize they have received this leadership training and have an obligation to use it."

Like many FFA members, Gary had plenty of work to do with a pitchfork without getting involved in the time-consuming field of student government. He ran a farrow-to-finish operation of 25 sows and 200 feeder pigs and built up a herd of 15 Polled Shorthorns. He also earned letters in football and basketball and played trombone in the school band.

At college, he split his time between a heavy academic schedule, his "hobby" of basketball officiating, tryouts for the livestock judging team and, of course, student government.

While serving on the WSU student assembly, Gary earned a reputation as a fair-minded, responsible representative. His opinions on issues were well-stated and built on sound logic. He could be depended upon to speak out, even when he knew he was on the minority side of a controversial issue.

His speaking ability has not always been so polished. When Gary ran for his first student body office, secretary at Reardan High School in 1970, he spoke so softly that his campaign speech was barely audible. Fred Springer, Gary's vo-ag teacher and FFA advisor, took the young FFA member aside and said, "If you ever are going to get anywhere in the FFA, you will have to learn to speak up."

Springer did not have to repeat himself. As a junior, Gary was a member of Reardan's parliamentary procedure team that took first place in the state. That same year, he won the state livestock farming award and was elected state reporter. He earned his American Farmer degree in 1974 and was a candidate for a national office.

Although he returned from Kansas City without that honor, Gary still had plenty of desire to utilize his leadership training.

He ran for a seat on the WSU assembly "because of the challenge," he observed. "Serving on a governing body of a major university (16,200 students) offered a chance to see if I could use the skills I had to represent people who felt they were not being represented."

Gary Schulz has found FFA training useful in his work with student government.

Gary checks his mail. Communications help him keep abreast of the issues.

Gary also was concerned about the qualifications of some of the assembly members he had seen in action. "A lot of radical people were in student government. It is not the most radical people who have the responsibility to lead. It should be the people with leadership ability and skill."

Student government, he admits, has given him a different viewpoint of leadership. "You can't mold a student body organization after the FFA," Gary warns potential office-seekers. "I had to adjust and learn to get along with people of different backgrounds and origins. I found out that not everyone knows parliamentary procedure."

Although his leadership training gave Gary an extra edge over his fellow representatives, he did not exploit his advantage. "I see a difference between responsibility and power. Leaders should be more responsible to be sure everyone is equally represented and fairly treated. The job should not be left up to those who want to manipulate that responsibility and turn it into power."

Despite the benefits he has enjoyed from his FFA training, Gary believes the organization can do more to build better leaders.

"The FFA can put too much emphasis on leadership and not enough on citizenship. Vo-ag instructors teach a unit on leadership development, but there is not much talk about the opportunities and responsibilities after a person has become a developed leader.

"FFA members still are students even after they get out of school, since they are enrolled as citizens of the United States. We owe it to society to use the skills and abilities we have."

From the Mailbag

Readers Report

Orfordville, Wisconsin

I am writing to inform you that no one in our chapter received any February-March magazines. Since there was an article about our chapter used, we would like to know if you could please send us about 80 copies of the February-March issue. I understand that our membership roster was held up in auditing before it got to you.

Julie Thostenson

Large quantities of extra copies are available at 20 cents per copy upon request. This does point out the necessity of getting membership rosters and dues mailed as early as possible.—Ed.

Clearfield, Utah

We were honored to have Mr. Ron Wilson, the National Vice President, in attendance at our state convention. In his speech Ron talked about setting goals and reaching them, then setting higher ones and trying to reach them. "The FFA is nothing except opportunity." This is what impressed me and some other members of the Clearfield Chapter the most.

After his speech, some of us had a chance to talk with Ron and asked him what he meant by "The FFA is nothing except opportunity." He replied, "If you look and try hard enough you will find every opportunity you will ever need."

Cliff Fuit

Abingdon, Virginia

I have just received my February-March, 1976, issue of *The National FUTURE FARMER* and was looking at the cover which shows the young man cutting silage. Being a dairy farmer myself, I know that this is a dangerous job. On first observation I noticed a chain wrapped around one of the lift arms of the tractor. I don't know whether the chain would be used to pull the tractor or the cutter but in either case the operator should know better than to pull from the arms. Also if the chain falls against the pto shaft serious injury could occur to the operator and considerable damage could be done to the tractor.

There is also pictured a hydraulic hose hanging very close to the pto shaft. Should this hose rub against the shaft in sufficient pressure to create a hole, the operator or anyone close may be burned with the hot oil. This model chopper comes equipped with a bracket that holds all hoses clear of all moving parts.

Since we learn safety in the FFA, I feel that this picture does not do justice to what we have learned and should be practicing.

David Millsap

Cheyenne, Wyoming

I received the good news some time back about you going to use one of my pictures on the 1977 FFA Calendar. That makes three that I have had on the calendar and two on the cover of the national magazine, so am very proud of this fact.

Floyd Cashman

Conover, North Carolina

I am writing in response to your featured article in the April-May issue of this magazine. Without the hard working cowboys and cattlemen of our nation we would not be able to provide one of the world's most needed sources of protein.

I just thought the American cowboy deserved some recognition and well, I have to give you my right hand, for a job well done.

Wally Garrison

Tiffin, Ohio

I was interested in the national FFA magazine this month. I thought that it had a lot of real good "meat" in it. I got up tight over Silvia Porter's articles in our local paper about milk and milk co-ops and the marketing of milk. She was explaining how milk co-ops influence the price of milk but she didn't say anything about how labor unions influence the price of milk.

I just thought there were a number of articles in *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine that were saying the right things to young FFA members. Somehow we've got to continue to tell the story that the free enterprise system is a way of life that we mustn't give up. I hope that the national magazine realizes that fact and continues to say what they're saying about the things that our free enterprise system has done for this country.

Alvin Reuwee

Denton, Texas

While we appreciate seeing an article about mules in your influential magazine, we are sorry you are giving the youth of our nation such a one-sided and outdated report.

The mule is in truth, anything but in danger of extinction.

Since we started the American Donkey and Mule Society eight years ago, the donkey and the mule have increased their popularity, numbers and leisure time uses in a phenomenal manner!

There are now five large regional and two large national clubs dealing with donkeys and/or mules. There is and has been a national and international membership in these clubs, and thousands of people have read *Mr. Longears,* the official journal of the American Donkey and Mule Society. Mule shows have increased hundredfold in these last years, and there is now a mule and donkey show at the State Fair of Texas under the auspices of the Southwestern Donkey and Mule Society.

Please don't doom the mule to an early and undeserved extinction—on the contrary, he is headed up along with his brother the horse, on the trail to fun and—profit.

Mrs. Betsy Hutchins
Founder, American
Donkey and Mule Society

hunting hints

Always sneak up on a pothole from the upwind side, that is, with the wind at your back. Ducks invariably flush into the wind, so they will start your way as they get up off of the water. Even if they flare off immediately, you will gain a few precious seconds in which to get off a shot or two.

H. G. TAPPLY, Editor — Field & Stream

SPECIAL OFFER. A 32-page book on "Upland Game Birds" and a 24-page book on "Big Game Animals". Loaded with facts and full color photographs. Send 50¢ for each, plus your name and address to: Federal Book Offer, Box 625, Maple Plain, Minnesota 55359.

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25 ideas for a creative summer

By Russell J. Fornwalt

YOUR two or three months' vacation from school or college does not have to be dull, drab, or dismal. By no means need you be idle. Your summer can be an ideal one. From the following list of activities you might choose half a dozen or so, and you can add some of your own.

1) *Go to summer school.* Many public schools and some colleges offer courses for free. Get extra credits in accounting. Take a refresher in physics. Bone up on anatomy. Make up any work you failed during the school term.

2) *Increase your vocabulary.* Make it a point to learn the meaning and spelling of six new words every day. Dust off your trusty dictionary. With a larger vocabulary you will get more out of any school or college subject. You will also be better able to hold your own in a conversation or a school debate.

3) *Improve an old skill or learn a new one.* Increase your typing or shorthand speed. Learn how to operate a calculating machine or a pocket computer. Try your hand at baking biscuits, painting portraits, tooling leather, whittling wood, making models, or sculpting soap.

4) *Acquire another hobby.* You can start collecting stamps, postmarks, postcards, paper sugar sacks, matchbooks, old magazines, and numerous other items for very little money. It's fun to watch a collection grow. Some day you may be able to sell it for a premium price or donate it to your local museum.

5) *Attend offbeat events.* You'll find it exciting to visit places and attend events you have never been to before. Take in an auction sale. Go to a flea market or dog show. Attend a hog-calling or kite-flying contest.

6) *Invent something.* Not everything has been invented yet. The world is still looking for that better mousetrap, shoehorn, and back-scratcher. Put your imagination to work this summer. You might come up with a new toy, a handy kitchen gadget, an exciting parlor game, or jigsaw puzzle. Manufacturers are always looking for new ideas and gimmicks. . . perhaps yours.

7) *Learn a foreign language.* This is

an excellent group project. Ask friends to join you in learning French, Spanish, Russian, or Hindustani. You can help each other. A second or third language is a social and vocational asset.

8) *Enter prize contests* . . You might win anything from a pocket camera to an automobile or even a four-year all-expense college scholarship. Look for contest announcements in newspapers and magazines. You might win big by naming a new product, writing a good slogan for an old one, or solving rebus puzzles. Some publications sponsor competitions for amateur photographers.

9) *Read for pleasure and profit.* Self-help books are available to aid you in reading faster, more accurately, and with greater comprehension. As you know, reading is one of your most valuable skills. Spend at least part of your summer in improving that skill. Read the "best sellers" you missed out on during the school year. Use your local library to the fullest extent.

10) *Study your Bible.* The Scriptures are a never-ending source of illumination, inspiration, and insight. Of course, do not expect to master the entire Bible in a single summer. That requires a lifetime. Follow the daily Bible reading program as prescribed by your church or a religious publication. Volunteer to teach a Sunday school class. Organize a Bible study group in your home.

11) *Do a survey.* Ask people for their views on politics, pronography, pollution, or how to achieve world peace. Get them to tell you why they started smoking, and how they stopped (if they did). Through a survey you may be able to get original information and statistical data for a term paper, college thesis, or even your doctorate. A survey will enable you to have an interesting time with people.

12) *Write something.* Just don't sit there and read all day or watch television. Write something! You've always said you could write a book. Maybe your very own life story. . . which could be made into a movie. Well, at least get started on chapter one this summer when you might have plenty of time. If you do not think you are up to a full-length book, then try a one-act play or a poem or two. Compose a song. Who knows, it might make the Top Ten some day.

13) *Write letters to public officials.* Your Governor, Congressman, Senators, and Mayor will be glad to hear from you. Give them your views on housing, welfare, health care, air pollution, the energy crisis, defense spending, and so on. Suggest new laws which might be passed.

Most public officials will send you a

(Continued on Page 44)

Over $5,000 in prizes

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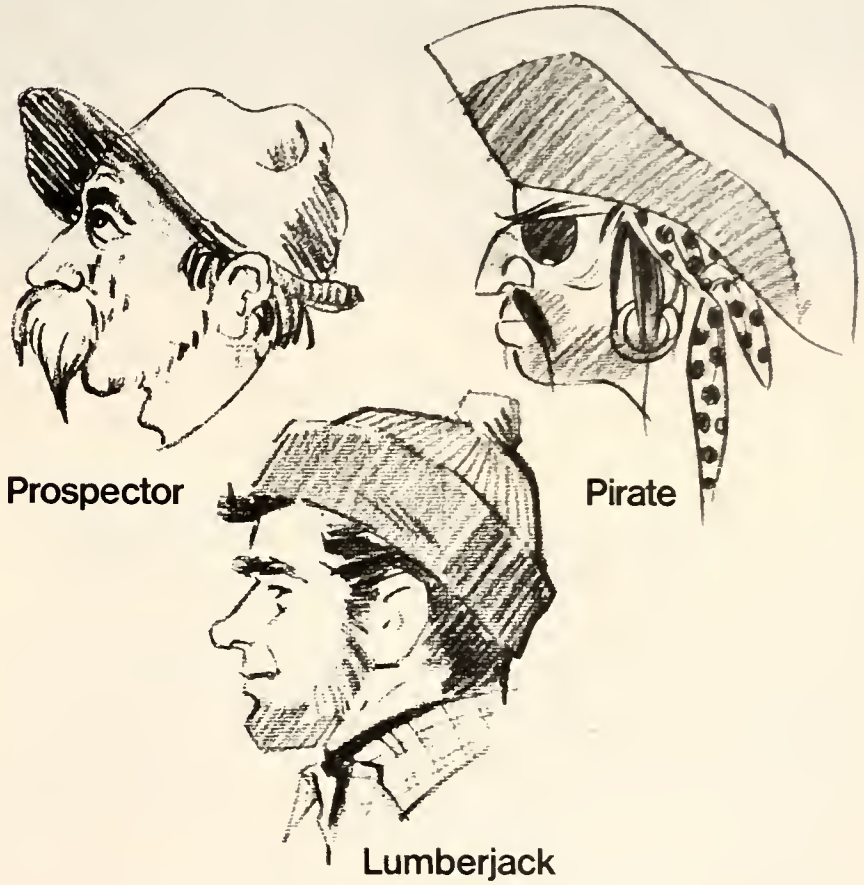

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Draw your favorite head any size except like a tracing. Use pencil. Every qualified entrant receives a free professional estimate of his drawing.

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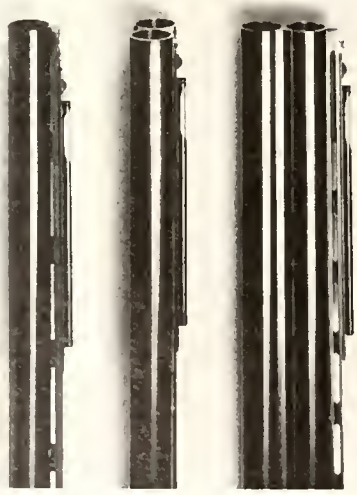
Accredited by the Accrediting Commission of the National Home Study Council.

Move four giant round bales at one time with this new Hesston Roundup mover. Mover bed rails tilt down at both ends making it easy to load from borders and fence rows with the rear end or from the field with the front end. Unique hydraulic tongue swings mover to the left for unobstructed visibility when front end loading, or centers for towing. Hesston Corporation, Hesston, KS.

Work saving, high strength antibiotic product for cattle, calves plus non-lactating cows, Oxy-Tet 100 introduced by Anchor Laboratories, St. Joseph, MO. For pneumonia, shipping fever, scours, wound infections, foot rot, diphtheria caused by oxytetracycline susceptible organisms. Does job of two separate injections of earlier products.

Something New



Left: Accu-Point, new optical sight made by W. R. Weaver Co., El Paso, TX, helps beginner learn to hold his head and gun in proper position to line up targets. Also helps other shooters to correct or improve their performance. Fits onto most steel-ribbed shotguns.

Right: Comfortable, single sided CB headset from Telex, Minneapolis, MN. Aviation style. Set allows CBer to monitor radio in private not disturbing co-drivers or riders. Mike has a noise cancelling feature which cleans out wind, traffic and engine noises.

Hydraulically-powered drum on new International Harvester 41 Unroller rotates and unrolls big round bales onto the ground to feed cattle in the field. Farmer can unroll either while standing still or when moving, and ration just the quantity of hay he wants his herd to consume.

Most powerful tractor ever made and with tape deck, TV, tilt steering and ice chest. Built to specification for an Illinois farmer by Woods & Copeland Manufacturing, Inc., Wharton, TX. Two men are comfortable in the air-conditioned cab of the 600 horsepower, 14-foot tall, machine.

SOME OF THE BEST PART-TIME JOBS IN AMERICA TAKE ONLY A WEEKEND A MONTH.

You know that enlisting in the Army Reserve is a good way to serve your country. But did you know that it's also a good way to serve yourself?

As a part-time job, the Army Reserve will give you a good second income along with more benefits-per-hour than most part-time jobs. From free job training to automatic raises to retirement income.

Even the hours are good. After a few months of training at full Army pay, you'll work only 16 hours a month (usually a weekend) and just two consecutive weeks during the year.

Of course, serving in the Army Reserve will earn you something that even most full-time jobs won't—the pride that comes from serving your country.

THE ARMY RESERVE. PART OF WHAT YOU EARN IS PRIDE.

The 574.

Muscular chore tractor that's big enough to help out in your fields.

Power up with a 52 PTO hp. gas or diesel engine.

For chore work there's a loader-tough transmission with lightning-flash shift. Fully-synchronized transmission that lets you shift on the go. Separate reversing shuttle. Fast in any gear to cut cycle time on back-and-forth loading jobs.

For field work you've got top-link sensing with torsion bar for quicker response and better draft control. Detects 20% load change so you can maintain more constant engine rpm's for excellent fuel economy.

A pressure-lubricated power train with planetary final drive gives maximum gear reduction. Takes greater shock loads than ring gear and pinion types. PTO operates off oil-cooled and cushioned clutch.

A clean walk-through operator's deck. No levers in the middle for safe mount and dismount.

You can power up or down from our 574. Model 674 delivers 58 PTO hp. gas or 61 PTO hp. diesel. Model 464, 45 PTO hp. gas or 44 PTO hp. diesel.

All 3 are powered with modern, clean-burning IH®-built engines for long life. Plenty of reserve lugging power to handle the tough jobs.

You couldn't pick a better time to power up to a new IH tractor than right now. Your IH dealer has the tractor you need at a good price.

INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER

Harvester
We build better machines for the business of farming

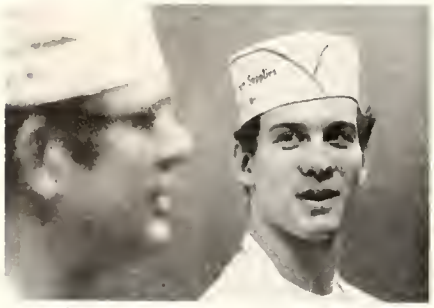
Tim Novak Smiles When You "Say Cheese"

"IF YOU put out a quality product you'll always have a market for it," says Tim Novak, nodding towards the boxes of cheddar cheese waiting for shipment to the company store in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

"There's a lot of pride in our product, that's one of the reasons I decided to go into the business."

That pride and a lot of hard work helped Tim, who is now 19, become the National FFA Proficiency award winner in Agriculture Placement in Processing in 1975. Prior to winning that honor, Tim had passed the state qualification test to become probably the youngest licensed cheesemaker in the state. His passing score was the highest of anyone taking the test at the time.

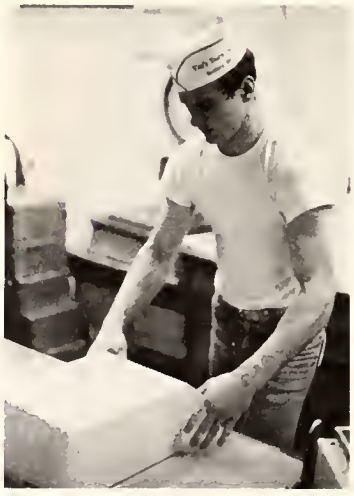
Tim's early mention of pride is a giveaway to the attitude the people in that area of Wisconsin seem to have for their dairy product industry. "Cheer for Cheese" is spelled out boldly at the entrance to Denmark, Wisconsin, where Tim graduated from high school. "This area is really the capital for quality cheese in the world," notes Tim's father William Novak who with his wife, two sons and four daughters



"The best way to learn the business is from someone who knows, like my dad."

runs the family-owned Hebel's Corner Cheese Factory.

Tim's success has come partly from his background and partly from his community surroundings. The Novaks are from hard working German ancestry with a history in the cheesemaking profession. The state of Wisconsin produces nearly 40 percent of the nation's cheese. Tim began working in his father's business almost from the time he could reach over the cheesemaking vats. In the four years he was enrolled in high school he worked over 4,300 hours before and after school in the factory. This training came at a time when the American addiction for natural cheese had become so acute that producers had to double production in less than 15 years. Per capita consumption of cheese in 1974 was 14.5 pounds.



Tim, who became the youngest licensed cheesemaker in Wisconsin, displays his seal. Licensing requirements included 18 months experience and passing a written test.

Cheesemaking is an exacting process. It includes milk grading, pasteurization, adding the starter, coagulation, cooking the curd, draining the whey, cheddaring, cutting, washing and salting the curd, hooping the cheese curds, packaging the cheese and finally wrapping and sealing the product. Approximately ten pounds of milk is required for every pound of cheese so a number of dairies must be contracted by the cheesemaker as suppliers. Part of Tim's job is making milk pick-ups with their bulk trucks.

Throughout the process, a number of decisions need to be made from experience since there is no set formula for many of the details. Actions are based on the cheesemaker's own standards for a quality product.

Tim recognizes his advantages of growing up in the business and intends to make the best of them, "Living in the business all my life I have learned to like it immensely. I have been fortunate enough to have an efficient operator, dad, teach me the do's and don'ts of making cheese, dealing with patrons and running a successful business. I can't see losing all the experiences gained by choosing a different career."

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Maple Water Buffalo vamp
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On October 8, 1871, legend has it, Mrs. O'Leary's cow kicked over the lantern whose flames started the great Chicago Fire. The blaze caused damage estimated at $196,000,000, rendering almost 100,000 homeless and killing 250.
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Think Small, Catch Big!

By Russell Tinsley

FISHING is a game of percentages. Always keep that in mind. The more odds in your favor, the better your chances of success. Throw into the water a bait eaten by all game fish—not just a select few—and you start playing the percentages.

For example, in most lakes, streams and impoundments—and indeed even farm ponds—there generally is an odd-couple mix of fishes, anything from bream (sunfish) and bass to crappies, walleyes, white bass, among others. A great majority will be pan-sized specimens. Only a minuscule percentile of fish spawned will eventually grow to so-called lunker size.

Tie on a four-inch artificial plug and you are directing your efforts at the limited few, the big fish. But substitute a tiny bait, an inch or two long, and now you are appealing to virtually everything in the body of water, fish large and small.

The common minnow, in one form or another, is a universal food of predatory fishes. Even some of the larger-mouth members of the "bream" family dine on minnows. So tie on a small fake to simulate a minnow and you are in business.

This is not surefire, to be sure. Sometimes fish prefer a diet other than the minnow—a crayfish perhaps—and you must adapt accordingly. But the minnow imitation is a logical start, and over the long haul you will be right more times than wrong.

Such artificials will run the gamut from lures made of soft rubber or plastic, spinnerbaits (Abu, Shyster, Panther Martin and Mepps, to name four popular brands), tiny chrome spoons, wobbling plugs (Sonic, Swimmin' Minnow, Pico, Hot Spot, Thinfin, etc.) and leadhead jigs with tails made from deer hair, squirrel tail, feathers, rubber or some other product. The look-alike really does not have to be that precise. Where and how you fish it usually is more important.

For best results such a lightweight bait weighing no more than ⅛ ounce should be matched with tackle of appropriate size, all components scaled down accordingly. Line that tests no more than six pounds, with four-pound monofilament being even better. Such light line means smaller, more delicate reels and light-action rods. Trying to cast a ⅛-ounce bait with a stiff rod not only is difficult, it is almost impossible if you are casting into any wind. And if you attempt to play a fish on light line with an unyielding rod, the strain usually is too much. A flexible, soft tip takes a lot of pressure off the wispy line and acts as a shock absorber.

A farm pond bass taken on spinnerbait and ultralight tackle.

Heavier line also kills the action of tiny artificials and there is more bulk for suspicious fish to detect, especially in clear water. Eliminate any frills such as a snap swivel; tie the monofil directly to the bait. A swivel stifles the lure's lifelike action and adds to the overall bulk. If you must utilize a swivel, such as in a current where your line will twist badly, go for the smallest one you can buy.

Actually, bulk is more imtant than weight. Some compact artificials with solid-lead bodies and tail spinners (Little George, Spinrite, Little Suzie, etc.) are heavy for their size and can be cast with conventional tackle. But most tiny baits do not pack much weight. This presents a problem of getting them into the water with any distance and accuracy on the cast, unless you are using specialized ultralight tackle.

Above, a sample of tiny jigs available on the market. Below, a tiny jig fished deep and very slowly duped this crappie.

And another problem, returning to that important factor of "how and where you fish the minnow fake." Most game fish spend much of their time on or near the bottom. Retrieve a lure near the surface and you get nothing but exercise; put it near bottom and how great it is.

A ⅛-ounce artificial takes its own good time to sink just ten feet, and if there is any current, it tends to merely ski along and never go down far. Once you have the bait near bottom, it is a challenge to keep it there as a lightweight lure wants to rise as you reel it in.

This is where you must use your ingenuity to adapt to peculiar circumstances.

Once I was fishing below a dam, near the swift tailrace water, and picking up only an occasional white bass.

(Continued on Page 57)

The gun.
The son of the gun.

The Model 94 30-30: "The Gun That Won the West" is the most outstanding lever-action rifle the country has ever known.

We can't imagine a stronger testimony to the quality of the 94 than the fact that we've sold over four million of them.

Today's 30-30 is offered in the Standard Model or the Antique version with fine scroll-work on a marbled, case-hardened receiver with a saddle ring and brass-plated loading gate. Either way, it's the finest lever-action deer rifle you'll ever own.

The Son of the Gun is the Model 9422—featuring the same strength, balance and design of the 94, but in 22 caliber in a choice of standard or magnum, both with adjustable, semi-buckhorn rear sight and hooded front ramp sight. Side ejection permits low scope mounting. The forged steel barrel, receiver and lever, and the carbine-style American walnut stock are only part of the quality that separates the 9422 from any other lever-action 22 you've ever held.

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Dr. Hall played a big part in the merger of NFA and FFA.

Former New Farmer Is Professional

This successful veterinarian found his inspiration through both New Farmer and Future Farmer programs.

IN 1965, the New Farmers of America, the national organization for black students in vocational agriculture, merged with the Future Farmers of America. Esco Hall, Jr., was a junior in high school that year. He was also first vice president on the NFA national officer team which helped plan the merger, and he took part in the ceremonies at Kansas City when the two groups joined.

Hall is now a successful doctor of veterinary medicine in Baxley, Georgia. Starting with his freshman year at Wheeler County Training School in Alamo, Georgia, Dr. Hall says he worked to be the best in everything in which he participated. He served as chapter, federation, and state officer before he was elected to a national NFA office. Not only was he involved with the leadership aspects of the NFA but also had a supervised farming project of 150 Poland China pigs. As a sophomore, he had the grand champion boar, the reserved champion boar, and won the showmanship contest at the Middle Georgia Livestock Show. The following year he won champion honors with a purebred gilt of the same breed to win every award possible for the show.

Following his graduation from high school, Dr. Hall entered Fort Valley State College with the aid of a vocational agriculture scholarship and a Sears and Roebuck scholarship. "I really didn't have any financial trouble," says Hall. "I just had to work hard." Three years of hard work later, with a 3.59 grade point average to his record, he was admitted to the University of Georgia, College of Veterinary Medicine.

During the fall of that first year of "vet school," Hall again attended the National FFA Convention, this time to receive the American Farmer degree, the highest level of FFA membership. He had earned the degree with both his leadership activities and for the swine operation that had by then grown to 250 head, including 35 brood sows.

Dr. Hall says his experiences with the swine project may have started him thinking about his career. "But I really first got enthused about becoming a veterinarian when I was at the Convention in Kansas City. We were on a tour of the Swift Packing Company. I saw the veterinarians inspecting the carcasses. A couple of those guys were making $35,000 and getting off at four o'clock in the afternoon. It was real impressive to me. So at first I wanted to be an inspector. Later I found the challenge was greater to be a practitioner."

After graduating from the University of Georgia in 1973, Hall set up a practice in Baxley, Georgia, 45 miles from his father's farm in Alamo. Today he runs a mixed practice, about 60 percent large animals and 40 percent small. Baxley's population of 4,500 keeps him busy, but Hall spends much of his time on the road. "My practice spreads out from Baxley and includes about five counties," he says. "I do a lot of large animal herd health work in the surrounding counties."

Even with the veterinarian practice he maintains, Dr. Hall still keeps the swine enterprise he started in 1963 when his father gave him his first gilt. With the help of his father he keeps 35 brood sows on hand.

Reflecting on the past, Hall says he has mixed feelings about the merger of the two organizations. "There are good and bad parts to it," he says. "It was a great opportunity for the guy who really wanted to push. On the other hand since the competition is greater it weeds out a lot of people. It has eliminated the borderline cases, the guys that might have achieved in the smaller organization. In other words, today you have got to be better in order to achieve."

Dr. Hall continues, "There seems to be fewer black students in vocational agriculture today because there are less and less black families on farms, and working in farm related jobs. Someone needs to get over to them that there is more to learn than just how to farm. A lot of them are not aware of the opportunities in agribusiness—for example, the profession I'm in. And of course, the leadership training with FFA is just as important as learning a farming skill."

As a leader and professional agribusinessman, Dr. Esco Hall, Jr. can speak with authority.

Hall's interest in animals began with a swine project in the NFA program.

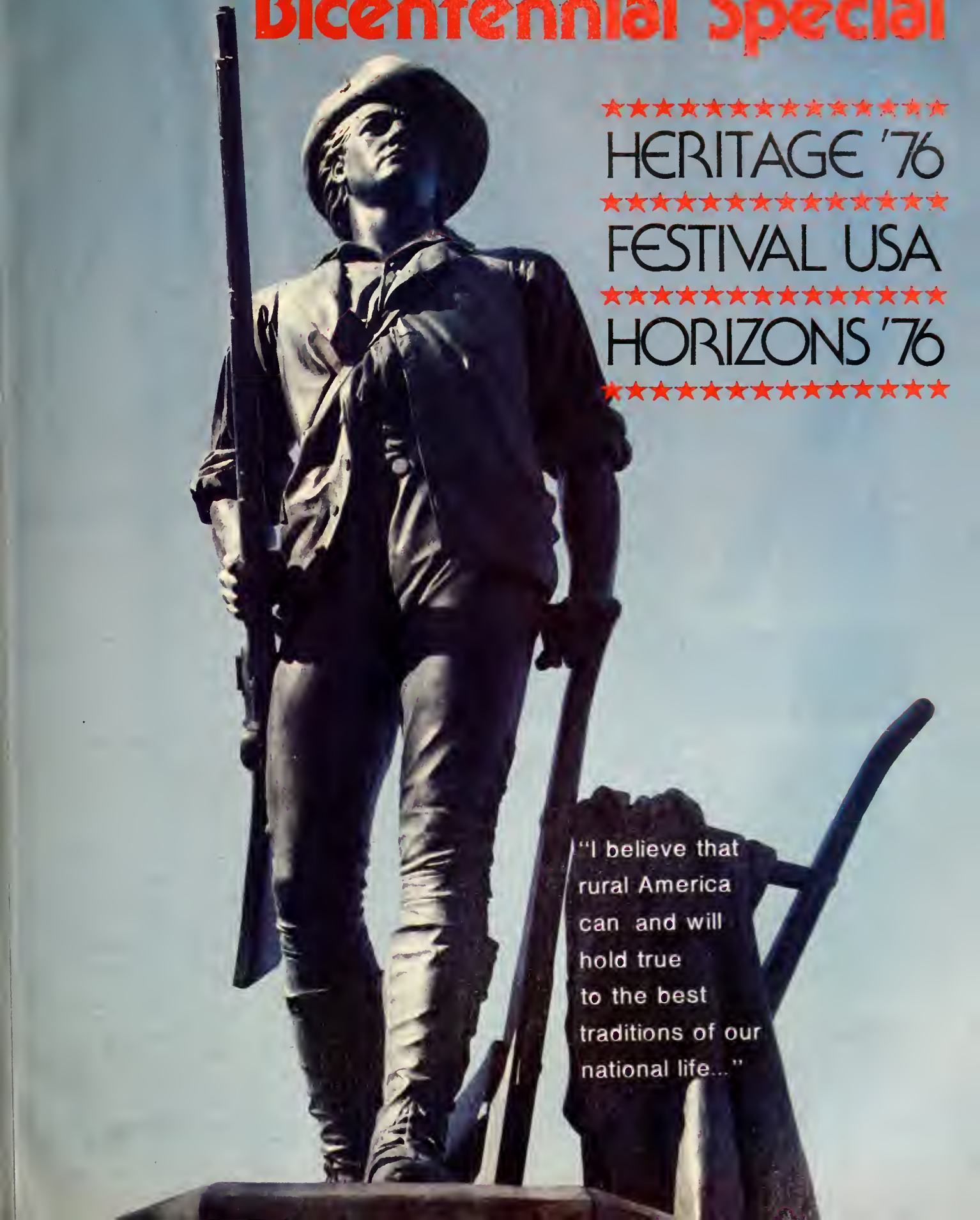
The National FUTURE FARMER

Bicentennial Special

HERITAGE '76

FESTIVAL USA

HORIZONS '76



HERITAGE '76

Through Heritage '76 we seek to remember our form of Government, our Founding Fathers, our forgotten people, the places and things of our past, the events of our past, and most important, our freedoms. Heritage is a restoration project, an historical reenactment, or a careful study of the three great documents.

The Farmer's Revolution

SCRAWLING their names boldly on a "treasonous" document that challenged the most powerful nation on earth in 1776, 14 American farmers helped chart a course for a free nation.

The Declaration of Independence was drafted by a 33-year-old Virginia planter who, besides informing King George III that the colonies rejected British rule, asserted such radical ideals as "all men are created equal."

Thomas Jefferson's words have since been chiseled into stone for all free men to ponder. But while filled with soul-stirring phrases that rise from dreams of freedom, the declaration was nurtured also by a practical concern for the health of Colonial America's economic cornerstone: agriculture.

Farm-bred rebels. When Jefferson drafted the document, nine out of ten colonial Americans earned their livelihoods by farming. The Continental Army was commanded by Virginia planter George Washington. And most of the tough, ragged troops who weathered hardships at Valley Forge, crossed the icy Delaware River, and fought professional British troops, were farmers who had been aroused to drop their hoes and take up arms.

While time has proven the ideals of freedom that Jefferson so eloquently stated, the practical aim of many patriots has also been largely achieved: an American agricultural system free from governmental oppression.

In 1776, the long tentacles of British law dipped deeply into the colonial farmers' pocketbooks and took away many trade opportunities with nations other than England.

Feudal shackles. The typical American farmer had migrated to the New World in search of land. Even after he had acquired the land, the farmer bitterly discovered that the shackles of the ancient British feudal system followed him across the ocean in the form of three laws: the entail, the quitrent, and primogeniture.

Quitrents were a holdover from the days when serfs paid a yearly fee to the lord of the manor. Colonial farmers were expected to pay the Crown or the land company a quitrent fee. Farmers, however, normally refused to pay the full amount, if any. But they felt harassed by collectors who attempted enforcement.

The entail was a requirement instituted by the original landowner that forbade his descendants from selling the land. This ensured that large estates would be passed on, intact, from generation to generation.

Reprint from The Farm Index, *published by The Economic Research Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

Primogeniture complemented the entail by designating the eldest son as sole heir of the estate, excluding other children of the family.

Thus, colonial farmers were disgruntled that their land was so regulated that they could not sell it for a profit, or divide it among several children who had worked equally hard.

Western Movement Halted. The farmer's irritation grew even greater with the Proclamation of 1763, after the French and Indian War. The proclamation forbade settlement of land west of the Allegheny Mountains.

To the British government, it was a sensible move to preserve peace with the Indians and to protect the vital fur trade. Yet, settlers were incensed because they were told to withdraw east of the line, abandoning land of great promise.

A new round of treaties with Indians in 1768 moved the line to the west, but the line never shifted fast enough to keep ahead of settlers.

Quebec Act. Perhaps the most irritating incident occurred in 1774, when Britain tried to do a humane deed: the Quebec Act. The law set up a civil government for Quebec, granted religious freedom for French Catholics, ordered French law administered, and extended Quebec's boundaries to the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers.

Settlers, colonial officials, and land speculators were enraged by this loss of western lands.

Even without additional provocations, the farmer had plenty of cause to feel rebellious. Hopes of additional land were crushed by an imaginary line, and land that he owned was tied up in legal red tape.

Yet, trade provocations were even more severe than those over land, from an economic viewpoint. The British set up trade restraints that favored citizens of England at the colonists expense.

Two types of restraints. These restrictions came in two basic forms: cutting off trade with non-British markets, and taxing of exported farm goods.

The Corn Law of 1689 imposed stiff duties on goods shipped to England—the only market allowed. The Molasses Act of 1733 and the Sugar Act of 1764 taxed molasses and sugar that didn't originate in the British West Indies, thus stopping trade between New England and the foreign West Indies.

New Englanders did far more than grumble. They set up a brisk smuggling trade with forbidden clients.

Southern problems. Southern planters were vitally affected by trade restraints. In 1621, Britain required that all tobacco must be shipped to England, where it was heavily taxed. To add to their woes, planters faced steadily decreasing yields. Indigo received more favorable import status. England, the only market allowed, subsidized prices for exported indigo. Many grateful Georgia and South Carolina indigo planters remained loyal during the war.

Farmers lead revolt. With trade and land grievances in mind, it's little wonder that much of the Revolution's leadership came from farms and plantations.

Of the 56 Declaration of Independence signers, 14 were farmers: Jefferson, Carter Braxton, Benjamin Harrison, Richard Henry Lee, Francis Lightfoot Lee, and Thomas Nelson of Virginia; Charles Carroll and Thomas Stone of Maryland; Abraham Clark and John Hart of New Jersey; Thomas Lynch and Arthur Middleton of South Carolina; William Floyd of New York; and Button Gwinnett of Georgia.

During the Revolution, as many farmers joined the army, others still tilled the soil. The war was an economic windfall for many farmers who supplied British, French and patriot armies. Most farmers sympathized with the patriots, but British business was welcomed by some, especially Mennonite and Quaker farmers who opposed the concept of war and remained neutral.

Bountiful crops continued to come in. Although the patriot army experienced severe food shortages sometimes, the problem was in buying and distributing food, not growing it.

Perhaps the worst food shortage occurred at Valley Forge during the winter of 1776-77, when Washington's army shivered and starved through bitter storms. The army was finally saved when several governors responded to Washington's appeals for provisions.

Time out for farming. Washington's army of farmers fought heroically in battle, but their main occupation, farming, often created a problem for generals. During planting and harvesting times, they strayed away to tend their fields, to Washington's great anguish.

Fortunately, harvest was over just in time for the climactic Battle of Yorktown, October 19, 1781, when enough farmers turned out to win the final major victory, with the aid of French allies.

After the war, British laws such as entails, quitrents, and primogeniture were voided by the victorious farmers. Imaginary barriers to western settlement were erased, and free trade with other nations was allowed.

Westward surge. As for the westward expansion, Virginia planter Jefferson bought the huge Louisiana Purchase area from France during his presidency for a mere $15 million.

The great bargain assured the American farmer of vast fields of land stretching to the Rocky Mountains.

HERITAGE '76

FFA ~ Built on the Spirit of '76

EVER wonder why George Washington keeps popping his powdered wig into FFA ceremonies? Or why his name appears six times in our FFA manual—more than all other U.S. presidents combined?

Well, it's called heritage. Defined, heritage is something handed down from one's ancestors or the past, as a characteristic, a culture, or tradition.

From its very birth in 1928, the FFA has relied heavily on our early American leaders for its very character, culture and tradition. State leaders of Virginia first originated the idea of a national organization for farm boys studying agriculture. They met their first obstacle when trying to choose a name.

One Mr. Henry Groseclose, later to become the first National FFA Executive Secretary, suggested FFV—Future Farmers of Virginia. FFV for generations had represented First Families of Virginia. Prominent names of FFV were Washington and Jefferson. Both men were known for their extreme love of agriculture. The letters took on a new significance and farm boys and their parents and friends were prompt in their acceptance.

So, from the very start of FFA, the underlying ties to our early presidents and their beliefs had been established. Virginia, a state which was in reality not even the first to have a state organization of vo-ag students, has since been recognized as the founding force in FFA. The credit is understandable. The state's early development of a constitution and ritual was far superior to attempts from other states. It was later used as a pattern for the national organization.

As you m. suspect, much of the early Virginia r ual touches on aspects of two of Virgin. great human contributors to our . tion—Washington and Jefferson. Both were by fate, famous politicians and re olutionary figures. Yet as expressed b Washington in his farewell address as President, "I am a farmer, first, last, and always." Jefferson too spoke almost religiously of his farming as an occupation, "No occupation is so delightful . . . as the culture of the earth."

America's first scientific farmer, Washington has a place of honor in FFA rituals.

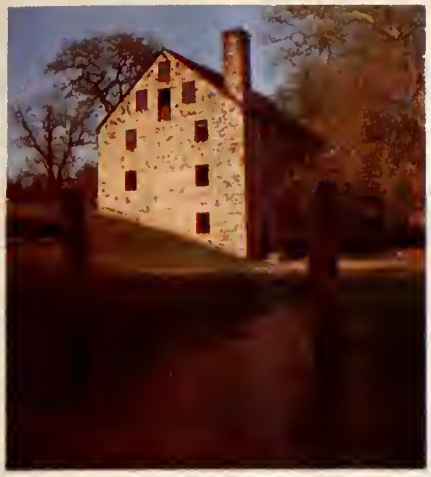
FFA's seeming preoccupation with honoring these two men stems less from their contribution to government and freedom than their earlier attention to scientific agriculture. "They had both the opportunity and desire to make this contribution," says Don Elder, USDA television specialist who has produced several historical shows for the Bicentennial year. "You've got to realize that they were men of position and influence. They had the land, labor and finances to experiment.

"Washington's 8,000-acre Mount Vernon plantation is considered by many to be the first experimental farm. He tried a variety of different plants—wheat, barley, oats, and corn. And he used them in a system of crop rotation. He experimented with different mulches and fertilizers. And when he realized that the growing of tobacco damaged the productivity of the farm's soil, he gave up growing the crop almost entirely."

Many of Washington's experiments stemmed from his correspondence with other colonists and English agriculturalists. Washington realized the importance of communications in improving agriculture and spoke in favor of setting up agricultural boards and societies for this purpose.

FFA members visit Mount Vernon.

Jefferson shared in this desire to improve agriculture. His life in politics and affairs of state was routinely interrupted with his return to his beloved Monticello and plantation life. He kept an accurate diary of his gardening activity. His designs for a modern plow of least resistance served as the blueprint for its eventual use in conquering



Washington's restored grist mill.

The National FFA Center, located three miles from Mount Vernon on the Potomac.

the country's virgin lands. He was one of the very first to experiment with contour plowing. This resulted from his keen observation of the damage done to the Virginia hills by erosion.

Early observations by Jefferson indicate his desire to see the United States become a nation of farmers. "Those who labour in the earth are those chosen people of God...While we have land to labour then, let us never wish to see our citizens occupied at a work bench."

Jefferson's contributions to the legal, social, and economic makeup of this nation are too numerous to recite. One important contribution to the democratic process of special interest to FFA members was his "Rules of Parliamentary Procedure," which still serves as the basic guidelines for the workings of our legislative bodies of government.

One of the most impressive events ever held by the Future Farmers of America occurred in 1933 when a three-day pilgrimage of officers and members of the FFA was made. They visited Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson near Charlottesville, Virginia, and Mount Vernon, home of George Washington. In Washington, D.C. the group was greeted on the White House lawn by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Although the pilgrimage was never repeated, one can see a distinct similarity to today's FFA Washington conference program. Members today witness the laying of a wreath on Washington's grave at Mount Vernon and view an historic performance at the Jefferson Memorial. Last year President Ford greeted the state FFA presidents on the White House lawn.

Not only did George Washington hand down much of our organization's tradition, but unknowingly—yet fittingly—he also handed down the present home of the FFA. The National FFA Center is located only 2½ miles from Mount Vernon on 35 acres of land purchased in 1939 for an FFA camp. The land occupies the same ground Washington set aside for his grist mill. Records indicate the land adjacent to the mill housed a stable for 30 steers and a number of pigs. Fittingly, it seems that a focal point of Washington's farming operation had become a camp for Future Farmers of America.

In 1941, 483 boys from 49 chapters in 17 states used the camp. During this time Washington's restored grist mill was maintained and operated by the FFA as a sightseeing attraction. The outbreak of war in 1941 left the FFA with what many considered a "white elephant." By 1949, the camp had cost the FFA about $47,600. Delegates to the 1949 convention voted to give the Board of Trustees authorization to dispose of the camp. In the meantime, though, the Future Farmers Supply Service headquarters had been located at the camp and was expanding rapidly. The facility was closed as a camp but started giving full service as headquarters for the Supply Service and *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine. A colonial-style office building was constructed and dedicated in 1959.

Today the FFA still owns 35 acres of the valuable land which has become home for the National FFA. The grist mill has since been turned over to the Virginia Park Service and continues to be a popular tourist attraction. Dogue Creek, once used by boatmen to transport sacks of ground flour to the mighty Potomac, serves as a natural boundary for the property.

Far beyond the physical and ceremonial attachment to Washington and Jefferson lies the heritage that farmers and Future Farmers of today have acquired. Today our farmers make up less than 5 percent of the country's population, while in 1776 they made up close to 95 percent. Yet today our farmers still feed the entire country with almost a third of their production helping to feed and clothe the rest of the world. This amazing progress can be linked back to these men—to their love for farming and their desire through research and experimentation to make it better.

HERITAGE '76

Step Back to '76

LET'S take a trip back in time, to the spring of 1776—when America was readying for her step into freedom.

As a teenager growing up in the colonies, your chances are nine in ten that your father is a farmer. The fates have not seen to make you the son of a wealthy plantation owner like the celebrated Washingtons or Jeffersons. Rather your parents are like 70 percent of the farmers who have settled onto the new land—either as a tenant or struggling free-holder. You have no slaves, your family has to depend on their own resourcefulness for food, clothing and shelter.

You are awakened from your trip into time by the strong urging of your mother. Light has just started to drift into the cracks of the log cabin. Below the sleeping loft, your father is piling wood on the fire. Heat from the flames has yet to fill the cold corners of the cabin.

You slip hurriedly from under your warm blankets and into your clothes. No deciding what to wear, for you have only one set of clothes and leather boots. Before breakfast there are chores. First you bring in more wood for the day's fire, then with bucket in hand you set off for water from the spring. Finally breakfast is ready. It is like yesterday's. And the day before. It seldom changes—usually corn meal mush. There is no sugar.

By the time the sun has broken cleanly from the nearby treetops, you are ready for the day's work. There is no school. Your lessons are in survival, wresting your life from the soil. Your teachers are your father, mother and neighbors. Any new ideas or methods to use in your operation are merely passed word-of-mouth. But there is little time for dealing with new ideas.

Your farm that had been cleared from the woods is 100 acres in size. Crops grown vary from year to year.

Tobacco had long been the traditional money crop in the area. Yet increasingly since 1770, farmers have found less and less of a market for their leaves. Strained relations with England —once the primary customer—has caused the slip. Ironically, because much of your land has already been depleted of nutrients from the many years of tobacco production, other crops do not yield heavily. And you have no fertilizers.

The raising of wheat for sale is becoming an established practice on many farms. But on your farm corn is the primary crop. It is essential for your food. Little of the produce grown on your farm is left over for the markets 20 miles away. What is left is traded for salt or household necessities like pewter, ironware or crockery.

It is early spring in Virginia which means today you'll be readying the land for planting. The planting method used is similar to methods used by the Indians over 100 years ago.

A few kernels will be placed in small hills of dirt. Depending upon your father's preference, the hills will be placed three to six feet apart. Your father has told you that the spacing between the hills is essential for promoting the maximum number of ears of corn on each stalk. He normally expects one or two stalks on each hill, although in some cases three stalks might be found next to an empty hill.

Surrounding the corn field is the fence that you worked on during the winter months. The worm fencing consists of split-log rails laid in a criss-cross fashion. Its purpose—to keep livestock and wildlife from the crops. Since your animals, three Red Devon cows and two horses roam freely, the field, the kitchen garden, and the orchard all need protection. Wild animals are also fenced out by this method, although every year certain damage is expected from the animals.

While you labor in the warming sun, the birds, squirrels and other sounds of spring help ease the aches that go with your work. On the slope above the field, you see your mother working in the kitchen garden. This small plot of land yields the cabbage, potatoes, onions, peas, beans and vegetables that break the monotony of your basic corn diet. Also grown are the herbs and spices she prizes.

Late in the morning your mother will slip into the cabin to scour the dishes for another meal. She may sit a while to rest her legs while sewing your new shirt. It will replace your already worn one before the next winter sets in.

With the sun climbing high in the cloudless sky, the sweet smell of frying bacon suddenly tantalizes your gnawing stomach. Today is a special day. You will enjoy the meat from a pig that you and your father butchered last winter. Most of the meat is salted and hung in the cabin's rafters. The noon meal, dinner, is your one meal of substance, essential for the long hours of farm work.

At 13, more and more of the farm responsibility is being handed over to you by your father. Growing stronger by the day, your frame is becoming hard and muscled from your activity. Despite your crude existence, being alive and healthy in 1776 as a free human being, is an act many won't experience. Close to 50 percent of all children born in Virginia perish before they reach five years of age, just as two of your sisters have done. And throughout Virginia, Negro slaves are actively bought and sold to maintain the larger plantations.

You return to the field following lunch. As you wield your crude hoe, your mind wanders to talk you've heard among your neighbors—talk of independence and the rejection of the king's laws and taxes. The thought of colonial rebellion excites you even though your family's trade is minimal, and the land tax levied against you is routinely ignored. You have an increasing awareness of land ownership. And you've grown up with the feeling of independence.

To the north, near Boston, farmers have already fought at Concord and Lexington. You and your father have discussed the battles and you know he too would fight. You've tried to persuade him to let you join the fighting if it should come to Virginia. You know why you should. One day you hope to use the farming skills you've learned to homestead your own land further west. You will wish to be free of any feudal laws levied by a king in a land you have never seen.

The thought stirs your spirit. The spurt of energy sends your hoe slashing through the red clay like a sword. For an instant you are in the thick of combat.

Soon the glorious thoughts fade, replaced by a realization that there are several hours of work left before the evening sun will set. You wipe the sweat from your brow and slowly work your way across the field.

HERITAGE '76

Our Nation's Flag

"Its destiny is great... its challenges even greater..."

FRANCIS Scott Key witnessed anxiously the 25-hour seige of Fort McHenry as the attackers pounded with "the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air." The shelling finally ceased during the night. "By dawn's early light," he caught sight of the American banner still waving over the desperately defended fort. The British attack had been futile, "our flag was still there."

So reads the memorable story often told about the writing of the "Star Spangled Banner."

In this case, as in so many others the story of the flag closely parallels the story of our country.

When on an April morning in 1775, the red-coated British and the colonial militia faced each other and a single shot rang out—from whom has never been certain—the Revolutionary War became a reality.

The war was fought with little centralized coordination, and most of the troops directed their loyalties to the colonies or districts from whence they came. This led to the use of many different flags. But eventually the Revolutionary leaders saw the need for a distinctive American flag, and the first Stars and Stripes was adopted on June 14, 1777. The resolution of the Continental Congress states that "the flag of the 13 United States be 13 stripes, alternately red and white, that the union be 13 stars, white in a blue field, representing a new constellation."

The story that Betsy Ross, a Philadelphia seamstress, designed and made the first flag has never been verified, nor have the claims to that honor for Francis Hopkinson of New Jersey, a colonial political leader. It has been reported that John Hulbert, a Long Island militia officer, made a flag of strikingly similar design in 1776. But to this day, no conclusive evidence has been turned up to prove who was the actual designer of the Stars and Stripes.

Authorized by Congress June 14, 1777, our flag is the third oldest of the national standards of the world. It was first raised over Fort Stanwix, on the site of the present city of Rome, New York, on August 3, 1777. Three days later (August 6, 1777), during the Battle of Oriskany, it was first under fire.

Originally bearing a star and a stripe for each state (13 in all), it became necessary to abandon this practice as more and more states were admitted to the Union. The stripes were limited to 13, representing the 13 original colonies, with a star being added for each additional state as it was admitted. This law is in effect today.

Authorities on the colors of the flag state that "the red is for valor, zeal and fervency; the white for hope, purity, cleanliness of life, and rectitude of conduct; the blue, the color of heaven, for reverence to God, loyalty, sincerity, justice, and truth."

FFA's special recognition of the flag is evident in our use of the pledge of allegiance in the official closing ceremonies for meetings and at other FFA gatherings. Two pages of specific rules governing display of the flag are included in the official FFA manual.

FFA continues to revere the flag "and the Republic for which it stands." But there are times when we tend to forget just how much they really mean to us. We overlook the fact that when it was founded, this country was a strange phenomenon on the face of the earth. Here actually was a place where men could vote their own destiny without fear of reprisals—where any man had the right to try to improve his own lot. It was a land destined to grow on a continent rich beyond comparison.

For two centuries the brilliant blue field and broad crimson stripes of Old Glory have been our country's standard. From its humble and perilous birth, it has withstood attack from foreign powers, survived a bloody war of unity, and by mid-20th century was recognized as the symbol of the world's greatest power. Today its destiny is great, its challenge even greater. Its future is limited only by the love and devotion of those whose destiny it represents.

Single copies of a 24-page booklet "Stars and Stripes and How To Display Them" is available from *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine, while the supply lasts.

FESTIVAL USA

Through Festival USA we celebrate the richness of our diversity, the vitality of our culture, our hospitality, the American scene and the traditions of our people. It means events and programs in the dance, drama, music and arts, in addition to parades, athletic events and a renewed spirit of hospitality to both domestic and international visitors.

Reliving the Good Old Days

"First, son, you need to learn to talk to the mules—gee, haw, whoa, and giddap. Then you can start plowing.

"HEY, grandad, what was it really like in the 'good old days'?"

FFA members of today may never know what it was like back then—to follow a team of mules and a walking plow from sunrise to sunset—or know that feeling of pride as you check over your shoulder and see that the furrow is straight and true.

The Menomonie, Wisconsin, FFA Chapter came up with a Bicentennial project that made it possible to take a step back in time, if only for a day.

They arranged for 11 local farmers who owned horses and mules to bring in their animals and plows for a horse plowing contest and demonstration. The event spanned an entire day. A number of FFA members and others tried their skill at plowing with a team and the old walking plow.

History and civics classes were invited to attend as well as the general public.

Approximately 2,000 people saw the registered Belgians, Percherons and Clydesdales as they pulled on two bottom gang, sulky and walking plows.

Instead of listening to stories from grandad, the FFA members could feel a part of their heritage. What did they learn?

"I guess it's just like grandad said it was," could have been the answer.

Walking behind a plow is a lot different than steering an air-conditioned four-wheel drive tractor. But for a day it can be fun reliving those good old days.

FESTIVAL USA

FFA Moves Forward with Farmfest

FFA members were involved from start.

State FFA officers will take part in activities including the 1900 farm.

WHEN delegates to the 1974 National FFA Convention voted to make Farmfest '76 one of their official Bicentennial activities, it was little more than the high hopes and ambitious plans of a few individuals who wanted to hold a major Bicentennial agricultural event in 1976.

Today Farmfest is recognized as the major farm-related Bicentennial event of the nation by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration. Farmfest employees are pulling all stops in preparation for their September 13 opening. And planners anticipate close to one million visitors to pass through the gates on the exposition site near Lake Crystal, Minnesota, before Farmfest closes on September 19.

FFA members are involved up to their blue jackets in the workings of the event—being hailed as the world's largest agricultural exposition. Already numerous chapters all over the country are serving as outlets for advanced sales of tickets. Over 56,000 tickets have been committed to these chapters. The chapters earn a sales commission on all the tickets they sell before the end of September.

But ticket selling is only a preliminary to the other Farmfest activities involving FFA members. Fifty FFA representatives, one per state, will man a "Turn of the Century Farm." The 1900's working farm is part of a 65-acre "tour through time" outdoor working museum. The display will provide a decade-by-decade review of mechanization of agriculture and put you face to face with historical scenes from another era.

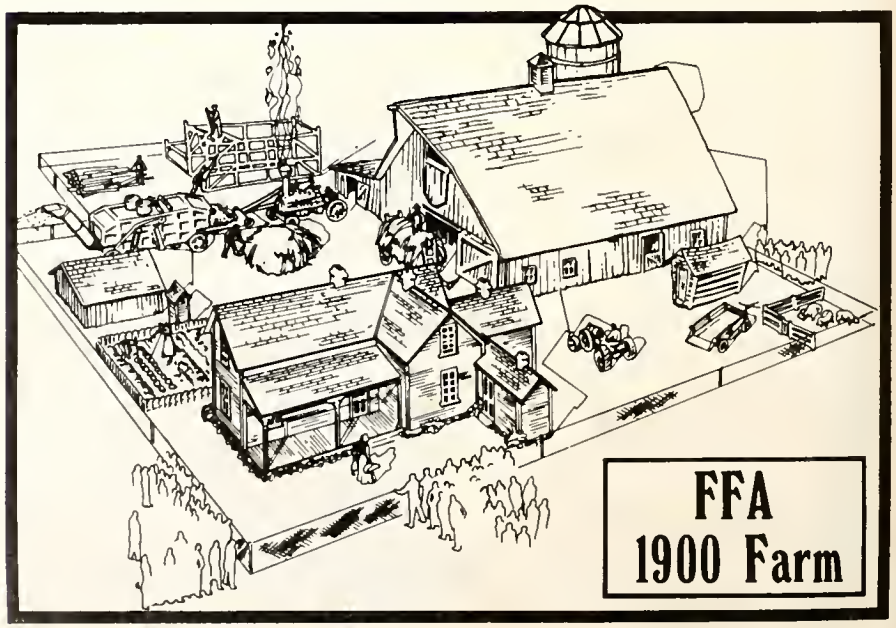
The 50 FFA members, selected by their home state will be dressed in clothes their great-grandparents would have worn...tending animals and gathering crops by hand in the shadow of two old barns, a creaking windmill, and, of course, an outhouse or two.

Farmfest plans also call for the use of FFA members to man a "children's barnyard" described as "gigantic" by Farmfest personnel. Much of the planning and organization for the "barnyard" is being done by the Minnesota FFA Association which sponsors a successful barnyard each year at their state fair. Mr. W. J. Kortesmaki, Minnesota State Ag Education Supervisor says "Local FFA chapters will be providing animals and boy/girl power. In all, 12 chapters will serve as resources for livestock. Minnesota's state officers will be attending each day."

Plans are now being made by National FFA personnel to incorporate the highly successful "Food For America" program into the "children's barnyard" exhibit. As a result, the display would not only let children see farm animals but help them understand their purpose in the production of food.

While many FFA members will be involved in working at Farmfest, others will come to enjoy the sights and sounds of this once-in-a-lifetime agricultural show.

Duane Leach, former regional advertising manager for *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine, is employed by Farmfest as an FFA liaison. He says inquiries about Farmfest '76 have come from FFA members and advisors coast to coast. "One teacher is



bringing two busloads from Michigan and another is bringing a large group from Washington State," says Leach.

The Sun Valley Chapter in Monroe, North Carolina, bought 176 tickets for their chapter members alone.

Since Farmfest is being held in a rural setting, and the majority of nearby motels are filling rapidly, efforts are being made to find housing for some FFA members within the nearby farming community.

Chapter Advisor Frank Stucky of New Ulm, Minnesota, describes what his chapter is doing. "We'll be putting up students from all over the country," says Stucky. "So far we've been contacted by chapters in Maryland, North Carolina, Mississippi, Kentucky, Washington, and Connecticut. As we fill up here we'll get in touch with other local chapters within a 40-mile radius who can help house FFA visitors. We're going to assign two kids to a group during the time they're here. We've lined up tours of local farms in the evenings for those who want to see a little of our local farming community."

There will be plenty of jobs to do.

Visitors, including FFA'ers who come to Farmfest in September, can look forward to the largest ag show since our nation's birth, in terms of size, scope and attendance. "It will be rich in historic background and pageantry and remembered for its scientific and educational background," says Farmfest promoter Ed Hart, who has worked closely with the FFA.

Exhibits will cover 121 acres of the 1,200-acre site. Nearly 700 companies will provide the exhibits and displays. According to Hart, dozens of major events and activities are shaping up for Farmfest '76, including:

Ag Competitions—20th World Championship Tractor Pull with $40,000 purse, World Championship Horse Pulling Contest with $10,000 purse, National Horse Plowing Contest, Farmfest '76 Invitational Horseshoe Pitching Contest, and contests in tractor plowing, mechanical corn picking and hand corn husking.

One thousand acres of field and farmstead demonstrations—harvesting, plowing, grain drying, tillage, weed and insect control, seed plots, growing examples of crops from every part of America, livestock breed exhibits, rural homes and living, farm credit, farm buildings, states, cities, and educational instructions.

Permanent memorial to the American farmer atop a 40-foot knoll overlooking the event, containing a 100/200 year "time capsule" with a memento from each Farmfest '76 participant.

Free stage shows—top-name entertainers and political leaders appearing in the five-acre natural amphitheater northeast of Monument Hill, and a massive final Sunday church service.

Historical displays—antique farm equipment and tools, demonstrations of historic trades and crafts, every tractor ever made, and pageants recreating the epic story of American agriculture.

And more—women's activity center, education hall with seminars and programs, possible network television documentary, and commemorative postage stamps, books and albums.

For more information write: Farmfest '76, Box 76, Lake Crystal, Minnesota 56055.

You May Want To Celebrate Too

BY THE time you read this, the year long Bicentennial celebration of our nation's birth will be nearly half over. What have you done to mark this occasion? Will you be able to tell your grandchildren of the personal involvement you had with this once-in-a-lifetime event?

Don't let this opportunity slip by. We've compiled some suggestions for you. They include FFA events taking place, community projects, and what you as an individual might do or see close to home or across the nation.

FFA Events and Activities: Many FFA Bicentennial activities are already underway. Of course one of the most publicized is Farmfest '76, already noted on the preceding page. This is only one of eight areas of involvement listed by the National FFA in its Celebrate '76 program. Celebrate '76 is an effort to award chapters for their involvement in FFA activities during the Bicentennial year. Chapters will receive special recognition at the National FFA Convention when they participate in four or more of these areas.

In addition to Farmfest '76, other areas noted are FFA Food For America, the Washington Conference Program, Building Our American Communities, FFA International Work Experience Abroad, FFA WEEK, FFA Calendar, and the FFA Alumni—A Year of Commitment.

The National FFA Convention, November 9-13, will pay special tribute to the two-hundredth birthday celebration. A special audio-visual presentation will be shown at the start of the Convention dedicated to the Bicentennial.

Community projects: You say your funds for traveling are limited and you'll be stuck at home this summer. Don't despair, there is plenty to do right around your own community to make '76 a special year. For example, why not try to restore some famous local landmark of the past? FFA members in Tooele, Utah, completely restored an old pony express station that had fallen into disrepair. Every community has their own history that should be preserved.

Other community projects might include the beautification of parks or grounds. Many chapters have made use of only red, white and blue flowers for this project. The Kent FFA Chapter in Washington State is developing a George Washington history garden, using only the plants that Washington had grown in his own famous garden.

If you enjoy the use of audio-visuals, try recording history on tape and in photos. Interview some of the elderly natives and preserve their recollections on tape for later generations to enjoy.

Another activity that you might find involvement in for the Bicentennial would be the hosting of a foreign traveller. Many exchange programs, including the FFA are looking for host families. It is a great way to show off our country while learning about ways of life abroad.

You and The Bicentennial: If you can't talk any of your friends into cooperating on a Bicentennial project, there are many things you can do on your own to make this year a memorable one.

Contact your local libraries to see if they have a summer reading program dedicated to the Bicentennial during the summer. You might especially enjoy reading about your own local community history. Collect news clippings into a notebook documenting history for the current year, or collect memorabilia found in attic searches. Perhaps you'd enjoy constructing a time capsule, to fill with ten items from 1976, seal it for opening in 2076. For you creative sorts, find some contests to enter: essay contests, photo contests, or art fairs.

These are only a fragment of the hundreds of ideas that you might like to look into as possible ways for making the Bicentennial a personal experience to remember. Remember you won't get another chance for another 100 years.

For more information and ideas write: What You Can Do: A Bicentennial Idea Book, American Revolution Bicentennial Administration, 2401 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20276.

HORIZONS '76

Through Horizons '76 we plan to shape a better tomorrow by beginning with individual initiative, by drawing inspiration from the innovations of today, by seeking the blessing of liberty for ourselves and others and by setting our Century III goals. It is ecology projects, tree-planting programs, transportation and housing improvement projects and educational and health programs.

FFA - WHERE ARE WE GOING?

TODAY'S farmers and Future Farmers face many dramatic challenges. Who would have the courage to predict the future 10, 50 or 100 years from now?

The National FUTURE FARMER convinced nine individuals to try. As you see, all have a unique expertise in the FFA and agriculture. Their predictions are also unique and represent their own viewpoints. Their accuracy will be judged solely by the test of time.

Bobby Tucker is the National FFA President. He came up through the ranks of the Texas Association of the FFA by serving as district president in 1971, area president in 1972 and state president in 1973. Bobby won his state public speaking contest and placed third in the national contest.

"Not long ago people were saying that there was no future for young people in agriculture. Today I think most people realize the importance of agriculture and the fact that young people have to train for agricultural careers today even more than they had to in the past. Training is going to become more necessary in the future as agriculture becomes more technical.

"Because of the impact of the population explosion, I think our program in agriculture will really begin to focus on the things that are actually needed. We'll need to set priorities with more emphasis on the aspect of food production—things that are absolutely necessary for people to survive.

"Also in the future we're going to have to keep our emphasis on leadership training. We need people who will stand up for agriculture. If we don't, who's going to? We're the people involved in it. This is the kind of push we're going to make in the future."

Mr. H. Neville Hunsicker has served as National FFA Advisor for ten years. Before moving into that position he taught vocational agriculture in West Virginia and served as that state's FFA Advisor. He is chairman of the National Committee on Employment Opportunities and Training Needs in Agribusiness.

"The future of FFA depends on our ability to convince all of the people in agricultural education that FFA is an essential laboratory experience for instruction. Five years from now I firmly believe that we will have achieved close to 100 percent membership among our agriculture students as a result of our attempts to update the standards of agricultural education.

"Agriculture is a growth industry, the largest and most demanding in the national economy, yet figures are often publicized that overlook that fact. Today approximately 9 percent of the workers in America are employed in the agriculture/agribusiness industry. Annual replacement needs total nearly one-half million each year yet we are training only 17 percent that many for the jobs that are available. We've got to get busy.

"As far as the future of agriculture in the world, America's is the brightest. We have the resources to be the producers. Whether FFA succeeds or fails in the future depends on the ability of these programs to keep abreast of progress and research."

Bryce Westlake is the 1975-76 Star Agribusinessman of America. His home is in Kinnear, Wyoming, where he was a member of the Wind River FFA Chapter. He is part owner in the family owned and operated Farmers Packing Company. Bryce served as treasurer of the state FFA association and is now serving on the local school board.

"Agriculture has been changing from the time they invented the wheel. And it's going to keep changing. Who knows what they are going to go to next? I do think as far as FFA is concerned that we're becoming more agribusiness oriented. More areas are opening up in this field all the time. Right now more recognition in the FFA is paid to the agribusiness area at the national level than it is on the local and state levels. I think that will be changing in the near future with greater recognition for agribusinessmen at the chapter level.

"I think we'll see further specialization in the agribusiness area. For example, one student I know in Nebraska is applying for the American Farmer degree this year as an auctioneer. That is really agribusiness. I think we're going to keep spreading into smaller areas like this.

"FFA will continue to grow. We're getting more members in because of agribusiness. Fifty-one percent of the membership now in FFA is in because of agribusiness, and I think until we peak with the agribusiness area, our membership will continue to grow."

Tucker

Hunsicker

Westlake

Gray

Worcester

Augenstein

McClure

Gamage

Smiley

Since 1957 Mr. William Paul Gray has served as National FFA Executive Secretary. Prior to moving to the national office he taught vocational agriculture in Colorado and was later employed in the state office of agricultural education in that state. In total, Mr. Gray draws on 40 years of experience with the FFA.

"As far as membership and enrollment in vocational agriculture is concerned I see a continued growth as a result of the expanding instructional program in agriculture/agribusiness. However, I foresee a leveling off of membership as we approach 575,000 due to the decreasing number of farms and the increasing mechanization of agriculture. I do see the percentage of students enrolled in vocational agriculture who take FFA increasing to around 90 percent. That will result from the emphasis on the proper training and preparation of teachers to do a more effective job of using the FFA.

"There will be some expansion in the various awards programs especially in the agriculture proficiency areas. For example, I think someday we'll see a broadening out of the horticulture program and the crop production area broken down.

"As long as we have agriculture we're going to have FFA. The coming generations are those that are going to pick up the reins of leadership and do the job to see that agriculture continues to prosper."

Fred McClure is the student body president of Texas A&M University. He served as National FFA Secretary in 1973-74 after serving as state FFA president in Texas. He sang in the National FFA Chorus and was drum major for the National FFA Band. Last summer Fred worked as a White House intern.

"By 2076, technology in agriculture will probably be even more advanced than it is now. In fact, it may be totally computerized by then, if computers as we know them are not obsolete by that time. I can really see us using less land and producing more by that time because I firmly believe that the population is going to be such that the people will have taken up more of the farmland. Production will have to be expanded to meet the needs, but by that time we will have reached a point where we can use fewer resources to achieve that.

"I think if vocational agriculture and the FFA are going to survive to 2076, it is going to have to be able to change and meet the needs of a changing agriculture and a changing America. The FFA of 1928 and for that matter the ag programs that existed when I was in high school may be obsolete by 2000. We're probably going to see vo-ag programs more technically oriented and with closer ties to those people that are actually in the industry making a living."

Dan Worcester of Hill City, Kansas, was named Star Farmer of America at last year's National FFA Convention. Dan has a herd of 70 brood cows on over 300 acres of pasture land and has purchased 320 acres of farmland near his home and rents another 480 acres. He served as state FFA parliamentarian.

"Farms are going to improve drastically in the next 100 years. There might even be something like an enclosed greenhouse over a large area, even a whole field. It sounds ridiculous but you don't know what it might be like in 100 years. It's something I would look toward, where you could control temperature, humidity and rainfall—in fact, you could just about control everything.

"I think there will still be the basic FFA program in the future because if there's going to be a production agriculture which I think there always will be, you're going to have to develop kids like FFA does now. Not only in production agriculture but also in the agribusiness end of agriculture.

"Farms are getting larger and the number of farmers will continue to decline. But I think the number of people that one farmer will feed will continue to increase. Today one farmer produces for 55 people. You'll see him producing for 150 some day. In 100 years one farmer might be producing for 500—you just don't know how fast it's going to increase."

Lennie Gamage has been in charge of the FFA's International Program since 1969. Prior to that he served as a National FFA Officer in 1955-56 and as advertising manager for **The National FUTURE FARMER** magazine for four years. Mr. Gamage received his high school training at Cartersville, Virginia, and graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute.

"It would seem to me that in the immediate future there will be an even greater interest among our members and young people all over the world in various types of international exchange activities. There's interest in finding out about the food and fiber business throughout the world.

"Increased international trade is having an impact on our program. Seven years ago less than a ton of soybean meal extract was exported to France. Now we're up in the thousands and thousands of tons being exported. That's just one example of the importance of our knowledge of foreign markets.

"Today there are seven other Future Farmer groups functioning in countries around the world. These youth organizations can work, but only on their own terms. In the future, I don't think there is going to be very much chance to just transplant FFA per se into another country. Instead I would say our role is to encourage leadership-type organizations that can develop agriculture in other countries."

Mr. L. L. Augenstein was the first person to receive the American Farmer degree from the FFA and was on the first National FFA Officer team. He has received Honorary State FFA degrees in Indiana, Wisconsin, California and Ohio. Now living in California, Mr. Augenstein spent many years as a successful farmer and rancher before his retirement.

"I have been active in FFA since 1927 but I have never been noted as being a conformist and have always anticipated tomorrow's developments. History finds its best use as a warning of what should have been done and the need for improvement.

"With space limitations in the future I predict that we will see the population living and working in the more temperate areas, that hydroponics will produce much of the vegetables, and that poultry and livestock will be mass produced in the millions under controlled housing and environment.

"About ten years ago FFA took a right turn, when you brought agribusiness in. And I predict that within ten years almost 80 percent of FFA members will be involved in agribusiness.

"International cooperation is important. From the ranks of the FFA membership will come the missionaries who will organize and train their counterparts. They will establish educational and leadership programs that will produce the skill needed by the citizens of the developing nations."

Julie Smiley is one of our organization's few women state FFA presidents. She has served the Washington Association since June, 1975. At last year's National FFA Convention she served as chairman for the National Convention committee. She won her state's public speaking contest as a high school sophomore.

"Enrollments in agriculture classes and colleges across the United States have seen a jump because of what the FFA is doing. How many girls, for example, would have understood what agriculture was all about or what it had to offer them unless they had been able to join FFA and become active.

"As far as when or if we'll ever have a girl national officer, I think the organization looks at the ability and qualifications and potential of the person instead of whether it's a boy or girl. The organization is looking for capable people to be national officers, and there's no reason why that can't be a girl. Almost every field in agriculture is open for women willing to do the best job they can and put the time and effort forward as a man would.

"People in agriculture are going to have to gain a better voice in state and national government. Unless the farmer's story is told, we'll see some dramatic changes in the future and they won't be for the better. Farmers, agriculturists, and people in all phases of agriculture need to cooperate together."

HORIZONS '76

FFA - A Future for America

"A FUTURE for America—FFA" What does it mean to you? That's what we asked the nation's FFA members in our special Bicentennial theme contest sponsored by *The National FUTURE FARMER* magazine.

Responses came from 34 states in all and of course the selection of a winner was a tough task for our editorial staff.

The winner, Jeanne Eickelberger of the Wayland, New York, FFA Chapter has her theme published on the following page. She will be sponsored to one of the FFA's Bicentennial Leadership Conferences in Washington, D.C. Second place winner was Myrna Yancey, Beaver River FFA Chapter, Croghan, New York. She wins $50 in cash. Third place was a tie between Scott Foster and his brother Bruce, from the Niles, Michigan, FFA Chapter. Since there was a tie, both Scott and Bruce will receive a $50 gift certificate from the National FFA Supply Service.

While pouring over the contest entries it became clear that although the entrants—came from locations all over America, were of ages varying from 14 to 21, represented both young men and women, and were from backgrounds that were considerably varied—their feelings about agriculture, the FFA and the future of this country were remarkably similar.

First of all they are proud young people. For example, these remarks:

"To be a part of an enormous and powerful industry of agriculture fills me with awe," writes Luanne French of Grafton, North Dakota.

"An FFA member is everything," notes Sharon Smith, Milford, New Jersey, *"some are managers, some business persons, others are today's agriculturists, but all are tomorrow's leaders. No, today's FFA members are 'not just farmers' but they are the backbone of America, the future of the most important industry in the world . . . agriculture."*

And they appreciate the value of FFA:

Kevin Hodges of Bend, Oregon, describes the FFA as *"a window to nature. A member has a chance to see, try and feel so many new things that are never covered in a textbook."*

"The farmer in the blue jacket with the famous gold FFA insignia has the advantage," says Bruce Foster of Niles, Michigan, *"he has learned to do."*

"FFA is the spirit and life of a new era of farming. As the FFA urged youth on in the past, and is cheering them on in the present, so it will continue to encourage future participation in farming and producing outstanding leaders in all walks of life," is the way Goretta Bommerscheim of Sullivan, Missouri, describes her feelings.

"The FFA is an 'in-school occupation,'" observes Lloyd Heckman of Bolckow, Missouri. *"First you work for it, then it works for you as a big advantage later. It's one that needs to be taken seriously because the Greenhand of today holds the key to the future."*

The contest entrants were particularly aware of America's role in food production.

"People who thought at one time the farmer was a 'nobody' are realizing for the first time how important he is for the survival of our country," writes Ann Charles of Surgoinsville, Tennessee.

Joseph Kleine, Troy, Missouri, agrees. *"The people of our country and the whole world depend on farmers to supply them with their basic needs. Farming is permanently the 'in' thing. It can never go out of style,"* he says.

The young writers seemed ready for the challenges they face.

"It is up to us young people to make this year the best in America's 200 years of existence. And what better time to start than in our Bicentennial year!" writes Teri O'Connell of Castle Rock, Washington.

"The biggest challenge to our young Future Farmers," says Joanne Cole of High Springs, Florida, *"is to abolish world hunger."*

"FFA is one of the cornerstones of agriculture, and agriculture is the backbone of this country. Future generations of boys and girls, not only in America but all over the world depend on us, the Future Farmers of America, to take on the leadership responsibilities of the world," agrees Willie Nachreiner, Anderson, California.

Lucy Martinez from Katy, Texas, says *"the future of the world rests upon the American farmer. But the future of the American farmer lies safely within the youth of FFA."*

Many of the entrants expressed concern over today's problems:

David Shoemaker of New Vienna, Ohio, has a warning for American consumers. *"American consumers, hear me, I am an American farmer! My fellow farmers like me have not raised your food prices. Without us you might starve."*

"I think the United States of America is falling apart, and the Future Farmers of America is one of the few organizations trying to put it back together again," notes Soloman Stoltzfus, Morgantown, Pennsylvania.

Becky Mitchell of Campbellsburg, Indiana, gives us food for thought with her theme. *"Of all the strikes going on today, just what do you think would happen if all of the farmers in the U.S. went on strike?"*

Gregory Colbert of Colton, California, is worried about the job agriculture does with their public relations. *"Farmers slay cattle in protest, dairymen pour milk down the drain, and swine disease related to flu epidemic. These are just three of the many stories that have made headlines within the past few years and they all have one thing in common—they make the farmer look bad in the eyes of the consumer."*

"Only one's imagination can foresee the consequences of a corporate system of agriculture," writes Kenneth Hellevang of Eden, South Dakota. *"Think in comparing with other corporations of the people needed, salaries paid and the prices of products that would result. That kind of future would not benefit anyone, yet that is the direction agriculture appears to be heading."*

Tim Arnold of Hope, Arkansas, says, *"The farmer is truly the minority and as such holds a minor position in the public eye. True, the housewife has recognized the farmer, and boycotted him. True, organized labor has recognized the farmer and struck against him. True, the industrialists and developers have recognized the farmer, and covered his soil with concrete and brick. Yet even today masses visualize the farmer as a leathery, tobacco stained slouch-hatted individual on the constant lookout for the next government sudsidy."*

But in the final evaluation, most of the entrants were positive in their outlook of the future.

"The theme refers to a driving patriotism which will someday be reborn in all Americans. It refers to a country where all Americans help their fellow man and where seldom will be found a man who is indifferent to the needs and problems of his fellow American or for that matter, his fellow being. This means a glorious day in the future when man is closer to the land and regards dwindling resources with far more love and respect than he does now," writes Bobby Ammons, Dillon, South Carolina.

"The future belongs to the youth, and so it is in agriculture too," says Lisa Schreiber, Otter Creek, Florida. *"Young people, such as members of the Future Farmers of America whose primary aim is to develop agriculture leadership, cooperation and citizenship, offer hope for the future of America."*

And Kaye Evans of Commerce, Georgia, says, *"Today is the dawning of a perfect tomorrow."*

So many thoughts and feelings were set down on paper in these essays that it's hard to find one statement that best tells the whole story of the theme "A Future for America—FFA." But perhaps the message is best conveyed in a summary sentence by Dave Mosher of Fair Grove, Missouri. He has advice for us all. *"We have a big job to do, so let's get to work!"*

THE WINNING THEME

Jeanne Eickelberger
Wayland FFA Chapter
Wayland, New York

"THE role FFA plays in the future of our country is to insure a never-ending number of young farmers and agribusinessmen to carry on the rich heritage of America; a heritage dedicated to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Young people add a necessary fresh viewpoint to life and ignite the sparks of enthusiasm and patriotism which has carried our nation through the past two hundred years. If the young colonial farmers of the Revolutionary era had not taken a stand at Concord Bridge, the dream of a free America for all would have been nothing more than just a dream. It turned out that the stuff of farmers —pride, grit, independence—was the stuff of patriots. Farmers are indeed the foundation on which this nation was built.

Realizing the leadership of farmers in planting the seeds of liberty at Concord, it is important to train young people to continue this heritage of leadership in the industry of agriculture today. Just as the founding fathers of our country had to learn to live with risks to protect their hard-won freedoms, so, too, must the farmers of the future learn to accept challenges—the Dust Bowl of the Great Plains states, equipment breakdowns, the encroachment of urbanization, floods and market losses. It is altogether appropriate that they should face hardships, disappointments, and successes, too, that other men and women may never know, and that they should be rightfully proud of their accomplishments.

The rebel countrymen who sowed the seeds of liberty guarded with their lives the ideas which were the building blocks of America. As FFA members, young people must preserve values that will last a lifetime; not the values of material things, but of hard work, honest sweat, and true happiness.

Farming is important to the future of the world. When this nation came into being, its principles were rooted firmly in the soil. The growth of our world has not destroyed these roots, but caused them to gain strong hold. As the bounty of our land increases, through the development of higher-yield corn and wheat, the breeding of hardier livestock and poultry, and scientific advances in cultivation of the land, so does the importance of the men and women who dedicate themselves to the land. They have a vital role in sustaining our way of life and standard of living—to make sure that America is forever a land of plenty.

FFA strengthens agriculture. Through FFA, young people come to know farming as an education for life. They experience an occupation that teaches much about birth, growth, and maturity in a variety of ways—the sight of your land greening each spring, the pride of watching your crops ripen tall beneath the sun, the satisfaction of the harvest of one more year.

In the years ahead, an abiding trust in the land and a deep awareness of the dignity of farming as a way of life will enlarge and enhance a sense of fulfillment. In this lies a rich replenishment of the spirit.

Farmers made this nation possible. Today they make it great."

A Bicentennial Message from the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 10, 1976

We now mark the beginning of our Third Century as an Independent Nation as well as the 200th Anniversary of the American Revolution. For two centuries our Nation has grown, changed and flourished. A diverse people, drawn from all corners of the earth, have joined together to fulfill the promise of democracy.

America's Bicentennial is rich in history and in the promise and potential of the years that lie ahead. It is about the events of our past, our achievements, our traditions, our diversity, our freedoms, our form of government and our continuing commitment to a better life for all Americans. The Bicentennial offers each of us the opportunity to join with our fellow citizens in honoring the past and preparing for the future in communities across the Nation. Thus, in joining together as races, nationalities, and individuals, we also retain and strengthen our traditions, background and personal freedom.

As we lay the cornerstone of America's Third Century, I am most happy to commend the publisher and staff of THE NATIONAL FUTURE FARMER on their Bicentennial Issue through which young people across the Nation can gain many useful insights and a better understanding of the agricultural needs of our country's Third Century. Efforts such as this are helping to make our great national celebration a memorable and meaningful one for all.

Gerald R. Ford

THEY shut down the schools. It happens every year in Aroostook County, Maine. But it isn't a teachers' strike, or a walk-out or any of those highly publicized happenings of recent years.

Aroostook County is the heart of potato production in the Eastern United States. For three weeks each year everything, including school, comes to a halt, and an all-out community effort goes into gathering the fall potato crop. In 1975, over 2½ billion pounds of potatoes were harvested from nearly 150,000 acres in Maine.

Most of the farms in the area are still family owned and operated. An example of the type of family oriented farming that is done in Aroostook County is the Kendall Grass family of Mars Hill, Maine. Fonda Grass, age 18, explains what harvest is like. "Our farm is 225 acres, which is about an average sized farm. We use two air harvesters—a machine that digs, sifts, and loads the potatoes, all in one pass over a field. About half of the harvesting in the area is being done mechanically, which has eliminated much of the hand picking and barrel filling, but it still takes a big crew to get the potatoes into the shed."

Nearly all local high school students, many of the teachers, and most of the townspeople are involved in the harvest. Even the local radio station keeps tabs on potato picking operations, announcing which farmer needs pickers and letting pickers know what time they're expected in the field. For students, it means starting school three weeks early in the summer, but the sacrifice means making some pretty good money once the harvest begins. The going price for potato pickers is 40 cents per barrel, and a good day might mean loading 100 barrels. Once a student is 16 or older he may find a job on a potato harvester, running a potato digger, or hauling loads of potatoes to the storage sheds.

Fonda, right, chats with ag teacher Larry Doughty during a break in the work.

Time Out For Potato Picking

Work on the Grass farm is a family affair. Fonda has three brothers, Warren, age 19, Darren, 16, and Sheldon, age 14. All but Sheldon are active in FFA and he will be joining as a freshman next year. Warren was state FFA secretary and speech winner, and Fonda also placed first with her speech in the state contest. She went to the National Convention last year as a member of the National FFA Chorus.

"Even after harvest is over, our time after school goes to helping Father with the farm work," says Fonda. "Unlike most farmers here we pack our own potatoes for shipping. That begins about a month after the picking ends. We pack from November 15 through May. We start at 3:30 in the afternoon, work until 5:00, take an hour for supper, then go back out and work until 8:00 or 9:00. We usually work Saturdays too, although Dad usually encourages us to go on any FFA trips."

If it sounds like the Grass family works full time, it isn't quite so. Just after her seventeenth birthday, Fonda received her pilot's license. She says, "I could have gotten it sooner, if we hadn't been in the middle of harvest at the time." She did manage to complete the flight test before Warren, who had to wait until harvest was completely over before he could find time to take his test. "I guess all kids need to show their freedom. Some use drugs and others race cars. We show our independence through flying," says Fonda.

Warren plans to stay on the farm. He and his father have already purchased an additional 60 acres for their operation. He has taken over much of the responsibility for keeping the machines in running order.

The cooperative effort that's evidenced during picking time seems contagious. The Grass family and the Aroostook County community seem to represent the closeness that comes when people work for common goals. "They used to call this area of the country the poor farm of the United States," says Fonda. "Things are better now, but even if prices dropped we're rich in a lot of things the city people don't have."

Fonda won her state FFA speaking contest on a topic she knew well—flying.

Ag Colleges: Enrollments Are Soaring

THE chart looks like the ascent to some dizzying mountaintop. As the enrollment line reaches into the 1970's it climbs almost straight up.

The fact is, twice as many students enrolled in agricultural colleges at the start of this school year than did only ten years ago. The newest figures available show over 92,000 undergraduates enrolled in 70 of the nation's state universities and land grant colleges of agriculture. That is a 12.8 percent increase from the previous year. The increase marks the continuation of a trend that actually began back in 1964.

Why have agricultural classes suddenly become so popular?

Dr. Rodney Betramson, Director of Resident Instruction for the College of Agriculture, Washington State University who served as chairman for the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges (NASULGC) Committee on Policy the past year says, "There has been a change in thinking in the last few years. Agriculture graduates used to be in surplus. That was before the growing concern for the environment began and before the threat of world hunger became so real."

Washington State was one of NASULGC's 63 institutions showing marked gains in enrollments. Showing the largest gains were Texas A&M, Massachusetts, Wisconsin and California. Only seven institutions noted losses.

At the University of Wisconsin at Madison, the increase was a whopping 32 percent last year. Dr. George Sledge, Associate Dean for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Wisconsin says, "Several factors contributed to this. For one thing we had a rapid increase in women students in agriculture and life sciences." The trend is nationwide. Sixty-three institutions reported 23,654 undergraduate women in colleges of agriculture, which indicates over 25 percent of the students in agriculture in the NASULGC are women.

Dr. Betramson says he believes much of the increase in women enrollees has to do with the changing environment of the farm and agriculture. "Farm work used to be backbreaking. Not many women could handle a 150-pound bag of feed, or wanted to. Now agriculture is more mechanical. And with the trend toward air-conditioned cabs and power steering, women can handle a tractor or combine as well as a man."

Dr. Betramson also noted an increase in urban and rural non-farm students enrolling in agricultural classes. "Some of our member institutions are running as high as 60 to 70 percent in this category," he says. "But 65 to 80 percent of the agricultural careers out there are not in farming." Non-farm agricultural jobs have been the basis for growth in a diversity of non-traditional areas of study. Classes in horticulture, natural resources, land use and rural development are just examples.

Traditional majors such as animal science, agronomy and agricultural economics continue to be popular.

At the same time more city raised students are enrolling in ag schools, more of the students with farm backgrounds are returning to the farm after getting their education. "That's caused by increasing farm incomes which attract these students," says Betramson. "And we're looking at a mature farm population. The average age of the U.S. farmer is between 55 and 65. Someone has to replace these people."

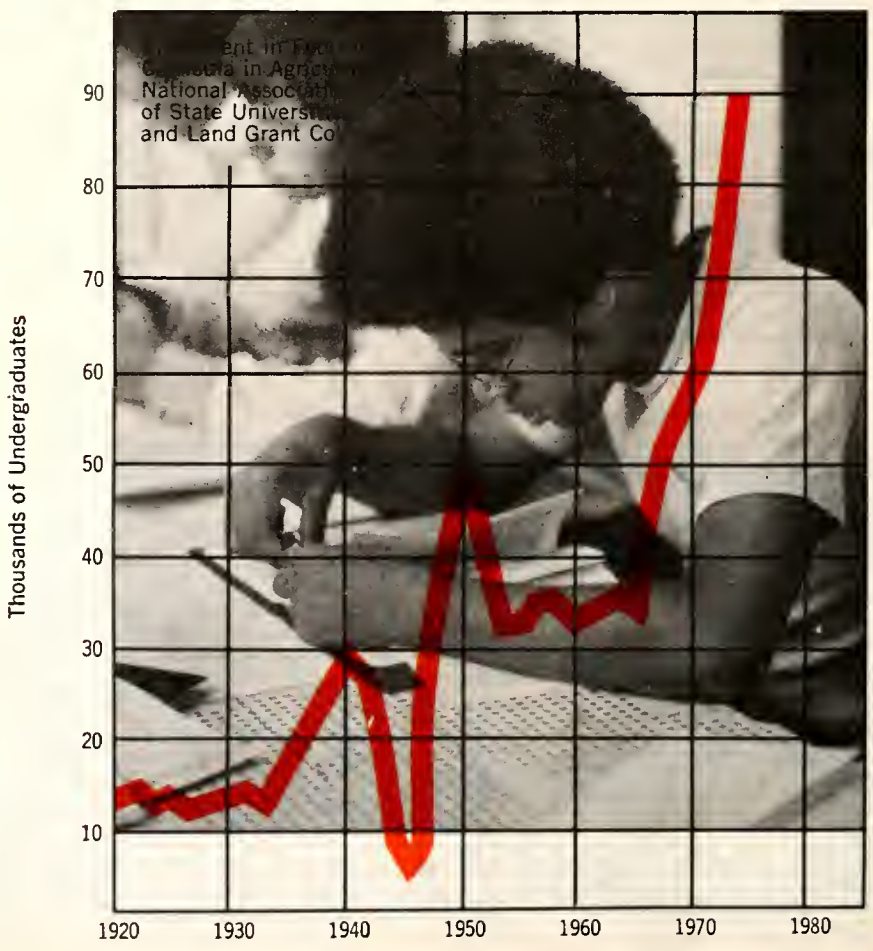
Dr. John A. Goodding, Acting Dean, College of Agriculture, University of Minnesota, says the number of graduates who are finding opportunities to farm or manage farming operations is increasing. "Ten years ago about 1 in 15 or 20 graduates had this opportunity as compared to the 1 in 4 or 5 of today," he says.

What are the chances of other agriculture graduates finding jobs?

A recent survey of 14 Midwestern Land Grant universities showed that 1.7 jobs are available for each agricultural graduate. The survey also revealed that average starting salaries increased 6.9 percent from 1974-75. At Michigan State University 88 percent of the June, 1975, graduates were employed with starting salaries over $10,000.

Agricultural employers usually prefer students with farm backgrounds. To give their students this type of "hands on" experience many schools are offering credit to students who serve some type of internship experiencing practical farm skills. At one California university, agricultural majors can enroll in a class to manage a five-acre plot of the university experimental farm.

Will the increase in enrollments for ag colleges continue? One spokesman says since young people reaching college age will peak about 1980, enrollments will level off as a result. Until then, if the farm economy remains healthy, expect increasing enrollments to continue.



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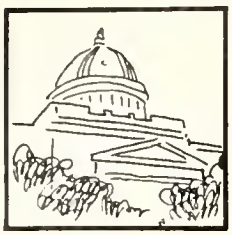
GOING TO COLLEGE GUIDE



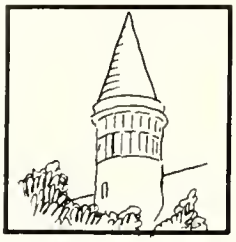
Student enrollment: 18,065 men, 7,182 women
Agricultural students: 3,931 men, 986 women
Location: College Station and Bryan, Texas
Pop.: 50,000
Ag training facilities: Extensive research and demonstration farms. 5,000 acre campus plus a 3,400 acre plantation used as research-demonstration farm.
Faculty: Ratio 17:1
Financial assistance: Scholarships, grants and loans all available.
Where to write: Dean of Agriculture, System Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, Texas 77843

Texas A&M University

Now the largest in single campus agricultural enrollments, Texas A&M was that state's first public institution of higher learning. Texas A&M celebrates its centennial this year.

Founded in 1875 as a land grant institution it was an all male, all military institution charged with teaching the branches of learning pertaining to agriculture and mechanical arts, including military tactics. In 1965, compulsory military training was abolished and in 1971, coeducation became official.

It has been the national leader in enrollment gains for the past three years. Because of the increased enrollment many new buildings have been built and are under construction to offer a variety of study areas as well as extra-curricular activities. Over 388 clubs and organizations are headquartered at the Memorial Student Center. The Texas A&M college of agriculture is known for its outstanding animal science and range science programs.



Student Enrollment: 31,840 men, 22,800 women
Agricultural students: 2,780 men, 533 women
Location: Columbus, Ohio
Pop.: 1,017,847
Ag training facilities: Extensive research farms and livestock facilities.
Faculty: Ratio 16:1
Financial assistance: Based on class rank, test scores, recommendations, and financial need. (Approximately 40 percent of students receive financial aid.)
Where to Write: Dean, College of Agriculture and Home Economics, 2120 Fyffe Road, Columbus, Ohio 43210.

The Ohio State University

The Ohio State University began in 1870 as the Ohio Agricultural and Mechanical College. On September 17, 1873, the first 24 students met on the former Neil farm, about 2½ miles north of downtown Columbus, Ohio, to begin their studies in the new college. Since that time, Ohio State has awarded more than 214,000 degrees.

The Ohio State University is the only institution in Ohio that offers the baccalaureate degree in agriculture. Six basic programs offer a variety of preparation for occupational opportunities. Twenty-four student organizations in the college provide students with the opportunities for educational, leadership, and social development. Many are sponsored by individual departments to foster professional youth in their respective areas. The school is known for its flexible curriculum and active college student councils. Students serve on college, departmental and university committees.

Student enrollment: 18,034 men, 10,889 women
Agricultural students: 2,629 men, 946 women
Location: West Lafayette, Indiana
Pop.: 100,000
Ag training facilities: Up-to-date and complete laboratories, greenhouses, farms, computer equipment, etc.
Faculty: Ratio approximately 10-15:1
Financial assistance: Numerous scholarships, grants, and other aid. (Twenty-five percent of students receive one-fourth financial aid.)
Where to write: A. R. Hilst, Director of Resident Instruction, School of Agriculture, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907

Purdue University

During its 107-year history Purdue University has sought to remain true to the spirit of the Morrill Act, which established colleges to teach the agricultural and mechanical arts. Purdue has gained fame in the arts of agriculture and today is the third largest of all agricultural colleges. Purdue's main campus is located in West Lafayette, Indiana, 60 miles northwest of Indianapolis and 126 miles southeast of Chicago. Nine teaching departments provide a home base for most agricultural students. There are some 30 clubs, honor societies and other organized student activities on the agriculture campus, which include a Collegiate FFA Chapter. The reputation Purdue's college of agriculture has built is not only for large enrollments, but also upon the success of its graduates. They include several Secretaries of Agriculture, including Secretary Earl Butz. "The college of ag is known for it flexibility of programs; active and unique combination of traditional programs and decentralized counseling system; the new agriculture."

Enrollment: 9,737 men, 7,213 women
Agricultural students: 2,055 men, 2,412 women
Location: Davis, California
Pop.: 35,000
Ag training facilities: Fields, orchard (3,000 acres), livestock, greenhouses and laboratories.
Faculty: Ratio 24:1
Financial assistance: Financial aid awards are based on financial need as determined from application form. A combination of packages of grants, loans, and work study funds is offered.
Where to write: Dean C. E. Hess, 228 Mark Hall, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of California, Davis, California 95616

University of California, Davis

The University of California, Davis, is one of the nine campuses which serves the state of California. It has its own distinct atmosphere and special features, while sharing the same standards and admission regulations as the other eight university campuses. Originally known as the University Farm, the Davis campus was acquired to serve the rural population of California. A legislative act of 1905 established the Farm which offered training in the principles and practices of managing soils, crops, and animals. Beginning in 1922 the degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture was granted those who completed the Davis program. The university is in a rapidly growing residential community of 32,500 located 15 miles west of Sacramento, 72 miles northeast of San Francisco. Six major areas of study are available for the agricultural student, in addition to an exploratory program to aid those searching for a major and individually designed major programs for students having a specific academic interest not represented by an established major.

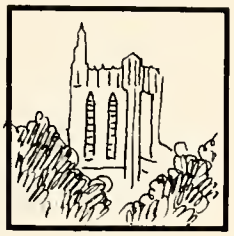
THAT day of decision is approaching. If you've just graduated from high school it's here. Perhaps you have already decided you want to go to college—but there are more than 1,500 American colleges and universities from which to choose. Seventy state universities and land grant colleges offer training for students seeking careers in agriculture. So how do you choose?

In this issue we're going to take you on a quick tour of some of these institutions of higher learning. The universities we are featuring are the eight heavies of agricultural colleges. They rank on top in terms of ag student enrollments, totalling 28,251 students enrolled in the fall of 1975. All eight offer their own unique blend of study opportunities and activities for today's college-bound agricultural student.

Student Enrollment: 13,150 men, 8,055 women
Agricultural students: 2,757 men, 525 women
Location: Ames, Iowa Pop.: 20,000
Ag training facilities: Well developed farms, laboratories and classrooms.
Faculty: Ratio 10:1
Financial assistance: Scholarships are available. Approximately 150 scholarships are awarded each year by the College of Agriculture, 40 of these to freshmen after their acceptance.
Where to write: Office of Admissions, 9 Beardshear Hall, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa 50010.

Iowa State University

Iowa was the first state to accept the land grant for establishment of a college in 1862. Today it ranks fifth for numbers enrolled in college of agriculture. The facilities for scientific and technological education at Iowa State University are among the world's finest. Graduates of agriculture have a broad educational background that lends itself to expansion in many areas. About one-fourth of the course work is in agricultural subjects. Approximately 90 percent of the students in the College of Agriculture participate in extra-curricular activities. Every department in the College of Agriculture has its own departmental club. Most of the curricula at Iowa State do not require a farm background or farm experience before graduation. Farm experience is a valuable asset, however, and students planning to study agriculture in college would gain by seeking employment in the area in which they wish to specialize. Alumni include: Henry Wallace, founder of Wallace's Farmer and Ezra Taft Benson, Secretary of Agriculture (1953-1961).



Student enrollment: 23,414 men, 19,-624 women
Agricultural students: 3,210 men, 1,311 women
Location: East Lansing, Michigan Pop.: 47,540
Ag training facilities: The campus consists of 5,000 acres. Thirty-five buildings house teaching and research facilities.
Faculty: Ratio 40:1
Financial assistance: Financial assistance is available to Michigan and out-of-state students based an academic excellence and need.
Where to write: Academic and Student Affairs, 121 Agriculture Hall, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan 48824.

Michigan State University

The College of Agriculture and Natural Resources was founded in 1855. It is one of the oldest colleges of agriculture in the nation and today one of the fastest growing. Enrollments have doubled in the last five years. Of the new students enrolled in the college of agriculture in 1975, women outnumber men. The college offers 22 academic majors (four-year undergraduate programs) through 15 departments. It provides the opportunity for students to participate in an intern program to gain on-the-job experience in their academic field of interest. It also offers participation in a Peace Corps Intern Program to orient students interested in international development. Eighty-eight percent of the June, 1975, graduates were employed with starting salaries over $10,000. There are 14 student clubs within the college which serve the many interests of students. Celebrated alumni include Russell G. Maube, President of the Kellogg Foundation, and William D. Knox, Editor of Hoards Dairyman.

Student enrollment: 10,862 men, 5,791 women
Agricultural students: 1,816 men, 1,128 women
Location: Ithaca, New York Pop.: 30,000
Ag training facilities: 14,200 acres of land for research and instruction. There are 18 major buildings, 46 greenhouses, the Cornell plantations and a livestock pavilion.
Faculty: Ratio 18:1
Financial assistance: Financial aid available. (Eighty percent of students receive some aid.)
Where to write: Dr. L. W. Feddema, Admissions Office, 195 Roberts Hall, Ithaca, New York 14850

Cornell University

Cornell, from its beginning in 1865 has been characterized as an institution unafraid to depart from conventional ideas. It was the first major American university to be both nonsectarian and coeducational and the first to declare itself for the elective idea, thus offering its students a real choice of studies. Cornell is an independent Ivy League institution and the Land Grant University for the state of New York. Situated on hills overlooking Cayuga Lake, the campus covers 740 acres and is considered one of the most beautiful in the United States. The over 50 undergraduate specializations offered in the college are grouped into nine broad program areas. The college of agriculture also offers several opportunities for students to participate in study-abroad programs which have been coordinated with universities in Mexico, Argentina, and Sweden. Cornell's college of agriculture accepts between 350 and 400 transfer students each year most from two-year colleges.

Student enrollment: 11,000 men, 11,000 women
Agricultural students: 2,200 men, 1,500 women
Location: Amherst, Massachusetts Pop.: 25,000
Faculty: Ratio 15:1
Financial assistance: Financial aid is offered to those students who cannot, through their own and their parents' reasonable efforts, meet the full cost of a college education. (Forty percent of students receive financial aid.)
Where to write: Dean's Office, College of Food and Natural Resources, University of Massachusetts, Stockbridge Hall, Amherst, Massachusetts 01002

University of Massachusetts

The University of Massachusetts is the state university founded under provisions of the 1862 Morrill Land Grant Act. Incorporated as Massachusetts Agricultural College in 1863, the institution became Massachusetts State College in 1931, and the University of Massachusetts in 1947. Situated in the Connecticut River Valley, the Amherst campus consists of approximately 1,200 acres of land and 150 buildings, including classrooms and laboratory facilities. The College of Food and Natural Resources, is one of the seven schools and colleges which make up the University of Massachusetts. Making up the college are six major areas of study, natural resource conservation, applied business and economics, plant and animal sciences, food resource sciences, environmental planning, and home economics. Among Massachusetts' outstanding alumni are Talcott Edminster, Administrator for USDA Agricultural Research Service and Robert Koch, president of the National Limestone Institute.

Creative Summer

(Continued from Page 11)

reply. By the end of the summer you will have an interesting and perhaps valuable collection of autographed letters.

14) *Increase your knowledge of government.* Get better acquainted with the political, legislative, and judicial processes. Go to meetings of the town council, school board, and county commissioners. Attend civil and criminal court trials. They can be a college education in themselves, especially if your career interest is in the field of law.

If you live near your state's capital, attend sessions of your legislature. Hearings held by committees considering new laws are usually open to the public. On your trip to Washington, D.C., visit the House and Senate, if they are in session.

15) *Interview candidates.* If your major is political science or government, try to get interviews with the men and women running for public office. Again, the information you develop might be useful for a paper or dissertation of some sort. You might even volunteer your services to the political party of your choice or to a particular candidate whom you would like to see elected to the town council or the state senate. We know from experience that taking part in a political campaign is most exciting and rewarding, especially when your man or party wins.

16) *Find yourself vocationally.* Interview men and women in the trade, business, or profession you plan to enter. Get first-hand information from them about law, medicine, auto mechanics, nursing, selling, beekeeping, or bookkeeping. You will find most people are very willing to tell you about their jobs, the training required, the advantages and disadvantages, and so forth.

17) *Make a career book.* Get yourself a looseleaf notebook. Write up the interviews you have with the workers in your chosen occupation. Make a list of schools or colleges that provide the training you will need. Be on the lookout for newspaper and magazine articles about current employment trends, working conditions, salaries, and fringe benefits. Ask your guidance counselor or school librarian for the names and addresses of government departments and professional or trade associations to which you might write for current occupational information.

18) *See the world at work.* Visit factories, foundries, farms, dairies, department stores, bakeries, mines, mills, printing establishments, newspaper offices, and wholesale houses in your locality. Learn how other people make their living by serving you. Visitors are sometimes welcome at firehouses, police precincts, and large post offices. Many industries have guided tours for the public. Find out.

19) *Visit institutions.* One profitable thing to do this summer, or at any time, is to increase your understanding of and sensitivity to the needs and conditions of people less fortunate than

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It also means it's capable of handling the tough stuff like logs and boulders. Yet its handling is light and quick.

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"I'm afraid yours isn't a wash and wear wig!"

yourself. Visit hospitals, homes for orphans and the elderly, facilities for the education of the blind, special schools for the physically handicapped, places for the mentally retarded, and penal institutions.

Make arrangements for such visits through your pastor, a social worker, your high school principal, or professor of sociology. Or, contact directly the superintendents of the places you want to visit. They all have schedules and rules which must be observed.

20) *Get yourself involved!* Join or organize a group to clean up a vacant lot and convert it into a vest-pocket park or playground. Collect books for institutions such as those mentioned earlier or for the soldiers overseas. Sponsor or participate in a scrap collection drive. Save your empty soda cans and bottles for recycling. Help to collect funds for your church or a local charity. Maybe there is something you can do to educate people in regard to the energy crisis.

21) *Plant corn.* In these times of high food prices, it will pay you and your family to have a vegetable garden in your backyard or in that lot beside the house. Raising beets, beans, and broccoli can be a pleasant, profitable, and educational pastime. And, you won't starve either! So, go to "seed" this summer. Raise your own cabbage, corn, and cauliflower.

22) *Plant trees.* We mentioned various community projects. However, we feel that "tree planting" should be in a category all its own. With very little effort and expense you can beautify your street and the entire community. You can also add to the nation's natural resources. Ask others to help you with a tree planting venture.

23) *Do a family tree.* If you are not the tree-planting type, then do a family tree. Perhaps no one has ever done a genealogical study of your forbears. You might get started on one this summer. Ask the librarian in your school or college about various resources. Perhaps your ancestors came over on the Mayflower. Check it out!

24) *Look for old fossils.* If genealogy is not up your alley, perhaps geology is. Do a study of the rocks and minerals in your area. Write to the Superintendent of Public Documents, Washington, D.C., for information about geological maps. They are inexpensive.

"I touched up the bad paint spots on your car, Pop."

However, if old fossils and faults in earth formations are not your forte, then find out more about the flora and fauna in your locality. Be a bird watcher. Keep a list of all you see.

25) *Do volunteer work.* Many hospitals, churches, community centers, neighborhood and settlement houses, and social agencies, particularly the Red Cross, use high school and college students as volunteers during the summer. Daily vacation Bible schools and day camps need people with all kinds of skills in arts, crafts, sports, music, nature study, and story telling. There is no pay, of course, but you will have a lot of fun. You will learn a great deal about child psychology, too.

The ideas for summer activity which we have suggested may not appeal to you. That's all right with us. No hard feelings. We have only tried to motivate you and stimulate your thinking. Put your unlimited imagination to work. You may be able to think of something which will be worth a million dollars, or more in fun, fascination, and creative effort.

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By Stu Campbell

So You Want To Get A Job

THAT'S great! A person who enters the job market early in life is generally better prepared to get higher paying jobs later in life.

But how do you get a job—perhaps your first one—with little or no experience?

First and very important, dress properly and neatly. An employer is looking at you as a representative of his organization, so dress and present yourself in a manner which will make the employer want you as an employee. Suits and ties are recommended for fellows applying for jobs and dresses or pant suits for gals. Wearing clothes that are "in" with the latest fashion fads is not as important as wearing clothes that are clean and neat and present a proper image for the position you are seeking. This is also important in keeping a job after you've got it.

Second, before arranging for a job interview, try to find out what the duties are. Can you perform these duties? If you haven't had experience in that particular field, does the job description sound interesting enough for you to learn and acquire the skills needed. If you have little interest in your job, you probably won't perform well, or live up to what you expected, or what your employer expected.

Third, arrange an interview. Once you have a date, time and the correct address of where the interview will be held, show up on time. Allow plenty of time for a late bus, traffic jams or other foreseeable events. Be prepared to fill out an application for employment, which usually asks for basic information such as name, address, phone number, social security number, work history, education information and references.

It's a good idea to show up early enough to complete the application by the appointment time. And if it's bad or windy weather, you may want to slip into a restroom to spruce up a bit before the interview. You want to look your best.

It's also a good idea to bring any letters of recommendation from former employers, your pastor or other respected businessmen in your community who know you. (Make sure you have some copies, photostats or carbons, you'll need them to present to other possible employers.) If you don't have any, ask your pastor or a businessman whom you know to write you a character reference. Explain to him you're looking for a job and would appreciate his help in finding one. You'll find that most people will be willing to do this provided you live as you should. Be sure the people you have listed on the application form as references are willing to give a reference.

Before you start the interview, make sure you can pronounce the interviewer's name correctly. If needed, ask him for a correct pronunciation and repeat it in front of him so you have it right. Remember it and use it during the interview.

During the interview, answer the questions honestly. The person who answers a question honestly with "I don't know" commands more respect than a person who doesn't know but tries to bluff an answer.

Look the interviewer in the eye and avoid nervous habits like biting your nails or squirming in your seat. Listen attentively and be prepared to answer the questions. Also be prepared to answer his questions originally! He may be tired of hearing a particular question answered with a "sounds good." If you're excited about what he has told you, show it—you'll have a better chance of getting the job. If you have questions of your own, don't interrupt the interviewer, but make a mental note and ask them when the time is more appropriate.

As an applicant, I wouldn't be the first to bring up wages, salary or pay. However, should the interviewer neglect or forget to mention what the job pays, don't be afraid to ask. A question such as that should come at the end of the interview rather than the beginning. The prospective employer knows that you are interested in the money but be sure to let him know that you are interested in the position and not just the money.

Be prepared to accept the job if it's offered to you. If the position sounds interesting, and you think you can do it or learn while doing acceptable work, ask for the job! Even though the pay may not be as high as you'd like, if this is your first or second job and your experience is limited, the work experience and good job references for the future may be worth more than the actual money received.

If you are not hired on the spot, you still have some work to do. The day after the interview, call the person who

(Continued on Page 49)

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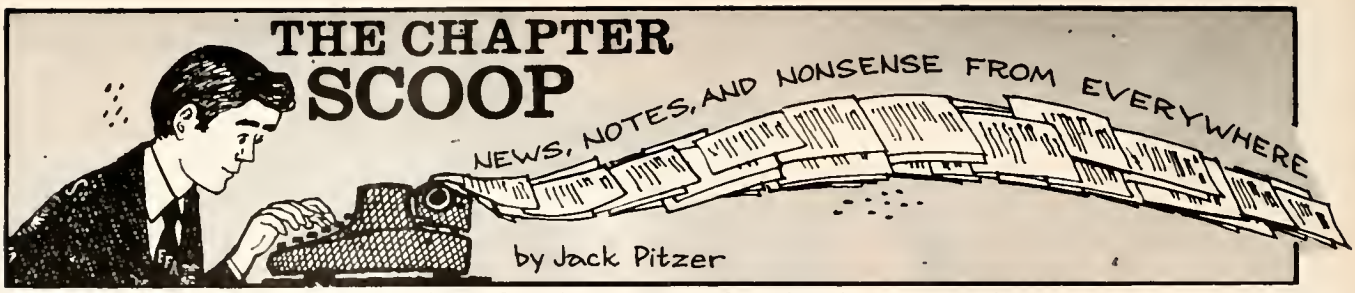


The pig petting display with people of all ages waiting in line just to see and pet little pigs was "quite a sight" for *Sidney*, Montana, members at National Western Stock Show.

N-N-N

Stars of *Wright City*, Missouri, children's barnyard was a "roller" pigeon and a rare hen that laid colored eggs.

N-N-N

Guess end of the year means we won't be hearing from some chapter reporters who sent news every month. Like **Greg Colbert**, *Colton*, California, **Tom Woodland**, *Sandpoint*, Idaho.

N-N-N

Francis Scott Key, Maryland, FFA planted 3,250 trees at a quarry.

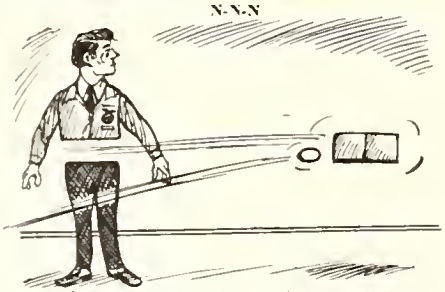
N-N-N

A three-year-old chapter in Idaho, *Deary*, received superior state awards in national safety, chapter and BOAC.

N-N-N

"Goodie bags" distributed to faculty by *Meridian*, Idaho, Chapter were FFA WEEK litterbags filled with fruit and give-away items from merchants.

N-N-N



It is reported at *Riverdale*, California, Greenhand initiation, Advisor Dutto's stomach intercepted a poorly aimed egg.

N-N-N

Annual "Sub-for-Santa" campaign—collecting food for needy—is successful one for *Springville*, Utah.

N-N-N

Freehold, New Jersey, had school superintendent Dr. Crespy sign FFA WEEK proclamation for the district.

N-N-N

First chapter to get in membership roster in Mississippi was *Collins*.

N-N-N

Slide show at *Big Walnut*, Ohio, parent-youth banquet featured accomplishments of FFA Star of each class.

N-N-N

Everybody pitched in for a CB for their advisor. *Oologah*, Oklahoma.

N-N-N

A safety speaking contest on hunting sponsored by *Bowling Green*, Ohio.

N-N-N

Winner of faculty cow judging contest during FFA WEEK won a milk pail full of groceries. *Bruce*, Wisconsin.

Cornell, New York, Collegiate Chapter joined the many many chapters selling citrus. Chapter's never been so rich.

N-N-N

What names chapters came up with for entries in statewide demonstration contest. *Grove City*, Pennsylvania, chose "Gnaws." *Wilmington* chose "Unharness the Horse."

N-N-N

After *Opheim*, Montana, snowmobile party, all went to **Paul Kronebusche's** for hot chocolate and goodies.

N-N-N

"We are developing part of the seven-acre plot owned by the city as our BOAC project." *South Shelby*, Missouri.

N-N-N

Members of *Capital*, Washington, celebrated Wildlife Week by bringing in a bobcat named Red and a racoon named Rocky.

N-N-N

A free coffee day in a local store was sponsored by *White Swan*, Washington.

N-N-N

Templeton, California, members take an annual trip to get into snow.

N-N-N

FFA members of *Donaldson*, Arizona, helped put out a fire which threatened two homes and a barn in nearby town of Friendship that doesn't have a fire department.

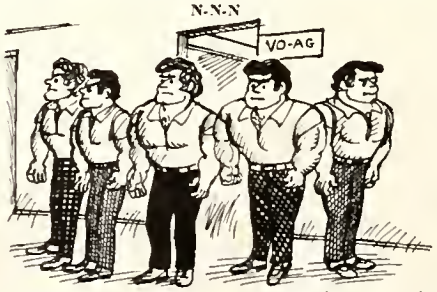
N-N-N

The *Porterville*, California, citrus judging team has been state champ 14 times in 16 years.

N-N-N

Lots of student-faculty involvement stimulated by two free theater tickets offered to best pictorial dairy cattle judge among faculty in *Fergus Falls*, Minnesota. Teachers even asked members for hints and help.

N-N-N



In *Norton*, Kansas, they claim FFA is the strongest organization in the school and members plan to keep it that way.

N-N-N

Mount Baker, Washington, established hatching facilities for 40,000 salmon. Co-oping with local hatcheries. Plan to raise eggs to fry stage (120 days) then release in county tributaries.

Major effort by *Sandpoint*, Idaho, was to help local traffic commission by conducting a citizen survey regarding a proposed one-way traffic system.

N-N-N

New trash barrels were put up in *Folsom*, Louisiana, by FFA.

N-N-N

Income from *Cordell*, Oklahoma, auction of "slave" members topped $4,000.00.

N-N-N

Special award for top chapter in Wyoming, selected by state council, got a registered Hereford heifer from Jack Turnell, Pitchfork Ranch. *Buffalo Bill* Chapter in Cody won things.

N-N-N

Idea: *Oconee County* FFA in Georgia decorated the school lunch room.

N-N-N

Roanoke-Benson, Illinois, sponsored a school assembly presentation ceremony by Air Force National Guard showing history of the American flag.

N-N-N

Rock Port, Missouri, raised funds with an auction sale of abandoned school items.

N-N-N

Gaylen Mathis wrote about the fun members of *Hope*, Arkansas, have in getting ready for their rodeo.

N-N-N

King City, Missouri, FFA bought coffee for everyone at local restaurants.

N-N-N

Carl Hundley, reporter for *Stoneville*, North Carolina, sent word of chapter's special FFA WEEK radio show.

N-N-N

Members of *Zephyrhills*, Florida, toured agribusiness firms owned by alumni association's members. Then held an FFA Alumni banquet.

N-N-N

For FFA WEEK, *Lebanon*, Connecticut, Chapter gives students tours of the vo-ag department during study halls.

N-N-N

Summer's something. Sun and fun. Time for extra projects and new friends. Plus time to send a note of news or nonsense to your national magazine. Send something.

Want a Job

(Continued from page 46)

interviewed you and thank them for their time. This will show your interest in the position is sincere. If you're not interested in the position, call and tell them that, too. They may have wanted you and your inaction may keep someone else from getting a job they really need. You may also inquire as to the status of your application and reassure the person you really want the job.

When you have completed an interview that you felt went well, don't sit back and wait to be hired. There are many job applicants in every field and someone else might get the job. So talk with other employers about the positions they have to offer and follow up by calling and checking. Sometimes it's difficult to obtain a job, particularly your first, but keep working at it.

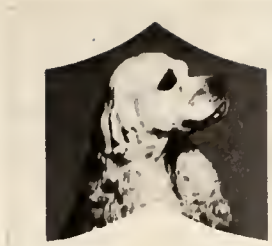
After you've found a job, how do you keep it? First, show up at work daily prepared to go to work. Allow enough time for travel interruptions.

Second, be prepared to accept responsibility. Your references have helped you obtain this position. Don't let them, your employer or yourself down.

Third, be prepared to accept the good along with the bad. There are good, fair, and bad aspects of every position. Don't become discouraged if you're assigned what might be thought of as an undesirable duty. Remember, the job has to be done, and many people have advanced through the ranks of a company to very high positions by performing tasks deemed undesirable more efficiently than those who preceded them.

Fourth, be of good cheer. While many chronic complainers are kept with a company because they can produce, the truly successful person is happy in his job. Remember, success is not measured in dollars. Many wealthy men are unhappy.

Fifth, good luck. Only you have the wisdom and courage to know whether to accept a position or not. You must do well to become a useful member of society, but don't let minor setbacks ruin your career objectives.



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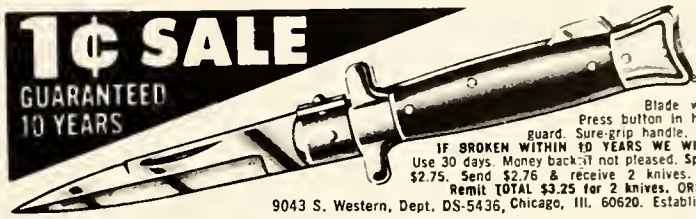

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FFA in Action

Developing Cattlemen

In the 1960's Arthur Corns, vocational agriculture teacher in Clark County, Kentucky, noticed there was only about 7 percent of the FFA members with beef projects. He realized that Clark County had the natural facilities for a larger number of cattle than was presently raised. It was not a grain producing area but a lot of pasture was available. He developed a way to get more FFA members involved in beef projects and since then other teachers have taken over the unique program in Clark County and it still works well.

In order to explain the program here's the story of one FFA member's project.

David Howard from the Clark County FFA started his career in the FFA by becoming involved in the feeder cattle program.

He found that money was available at a local bank for 6½ percent interest to loan FFA students to purchase calves weighing approximately 400 lbs. The calves were to be kept for one year and sold at auction in an FFA feeder sale. Of course the question entering his mind was, what if they accidentally die? He found that insurance from the Farm Bureau was available at 6 percent annually of the cost of the animal. Both the loan and insurance pre-arrangements were an outgrowth of Mr. Corn's idea.

David talked to his dad and they agreed for David to purchase two calves.

A few days later David and his vocational agriculture teacher went to the stockyards and purchased two calves weighing approximately 400 lbs.

The next day David went to the Farm Bureau office to insure the calves, then went to the bank to make out a note. All that was required was his signature on the note and the approval of the advisor.

A few days later after the calves had gotten over the shock of weaning and shipping, David began to get some hands-on-experience. With the FFA portable headgate he and his advisor vaccinated the calves for Blackleg, ear tagged, implanted, castrated and wormed the calves.

The calves were sold and David made approximately $75 per head after expenses.

After seeing how he could make a reasonable amount of money he bought five calves for next year and is making plans to buy more calves.

Along with his outstanding leadership activities, the feeder cattle program helped David achieve the Star Greenhand award. *(Anthony Smith, Advisor)*

David Howard was proud of his cattle and getting started in cattle business.

The Farm Did It

The Holdenville, Oklahoma, FFA decided to acquire a school farm in 1974 because of the growing number of members in the vo-ag department and because some students lived in town and didn't have any place to keep their animals.

With the help of the school board, citizens of the community and the State Department of Vocational and Technical Education, the Holdenville FFA Beef and Swine Training Lab was completed in 1975.

Since foundation stock is hard to come by, FFA decided to start raising pigs to sell to members of the chapter.

In addition the school farm has facilities for chapter members to keep beef and sheep. There is a wash and trimming room to prepare the animals for a show and water hoses so members don't have to carry water to animals.

Since the construction of the school farm, the enrollment in vo-ag at Holdenville has doubled. *(Pam Lilly, Reporter)*

In Three Generations

Wyoming's state champion FFA judging chapter honored the three generation state winning livestock judging family, the Eplers, at their annual getting acquainted parent/member dinner.

Grandfather Ora G. Epler helped win the state livestock judging in 1929.

Father Arden G. Epler was a member of the state champion livestock team in 1955.

Son Scott G. Epler followed in his grandfather's and father's foot-steps as he became the third generation of the Eplers to be a member of a state champion livestock team. *(Barbara Edmunds, Reporter)*

Father Arden Epler, left; son Scott, center; and grandfather Ora, right.

Playthings

The Sandpoint, Idaho, FFA constructed playground equipment and put up a playground for Sandpoint's Child Development Center. The Child Development Center helps children with mental handicaps.

The project began when BOAC chairman Brian Dockins learned that the center was forced to move to another location—leaving behind what little playground facilities they had.

Brian proposed the plan to the chapter. Members were enthusiastic about the idea and $100.00 from the chapter treasury was donated to the cause. Chapter members contacted the center staff on just what kind of equipment would be suitable and then work began.

Projects completed include a swivel teeter-totter, a balance beam, a rope climb, a tetherball pole set, and a playhouse that contains a sandbox. Members also repaired various toys and wagons for the children.

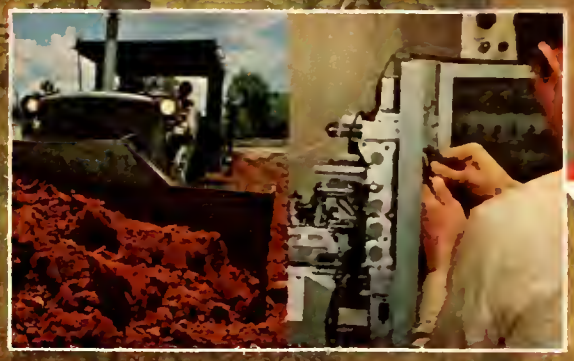
The project was quite a community effort—with the FFA doing the work and local businessmen donating materials and services. *(Tom Woodland, President)*

Circuit Rider Teacher

The small, rural, one-room school is alive and well in western Box Elder County, Utah. Located in the northwest corner of the Utah rangelands, the communities of Park Valley and Grouse Creek, both one-room schools with enrollments in grades kindergarten through tenth grade are receiving regular visits for instruction in agriculture from Mr. Rex Jensen, a veteran of over

(Continued on page 54)

The most important part-time job in America.



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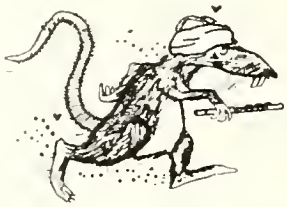

MR. RAT GUARD

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Kayla and Ann Christensen explained food production to kindergarten and first graders at Grouse Creek school.

FFA in Action

(Continued from Page 50)

30 years as a vocational agriculture instructor. Mr. Jensen makes the 300-plus mile round trip twice a week.

Close cooperation is obtained from members of the Bear River FFA Chapter at Bear River High School located in Tremonton, Utah. The 270-member chapter recently began a series of Food For America programs to assist the Park Valley and Grouse Creek schools in their agricultural instruction.

The instruction program divides the students in each school into two groups, kindergarten through fifth grades and sixth through tenth grades. Two FFA members instruct each group and present material geared to the students' learning level.

In the first Food For America presentation, Ann Christensen, chapter secretary and Kayla Christensen, historian, made good use of the Food For America art books for the kindergarten children and presented material on foods from pictures and films.

Chapter President Clint Munns and Reporter Lance Munns instructed the older children in the area of livestock for food and explained the relationship of the FFA organization to the betterment of agriculture. *(Robert Jensen, Advisor, Bear River)*

Ceremonial Tree Plant

The Crothersville, Indiana, Chapter conducted Arbor Day Ceremonies for over 200 fifth and sixth grade students. The story of Arbor Day was presented by Kyle Russell and Mickey Cochran recited the poem "Trees" by Joyce Kilmer.

FFA members Brad Watts, Leslie Johnson, Steve Wooten and Dennis Sipe explained the proper method of planting trees. A dedication of the trees was then given by Principal Tom Judd. A dialogue between a man and trees was presented by Earl and Paul Brock.

Ten red pine trees and an oak tree were planted in the city park adjacent to the school grounds. Trees were furnished by the Indiana Department of Forestry. *(Gayle Osborn, Advisor)*

Everybody In The Act

The small animal care class members in the Montgomery County FFA in the Joint Vocational School in Clayton, Ohio, are presently working with chinchillas.

Along with data processing students, the students now have an accurate record of all the chinchillas and their characteristics. This is called a herd print-out which averages the quality factors of the animal. On the print-out is listed the age, sex, color phase, the number of the chinchilla, the herd number, the breeder, the dam and the sire.

The animal is judged by his fur and the print-out gives the color, quality, and size. Along with these are the veiling, fur pattern, texture, density, and strength and confirmation. *(Robyn Hampton, Reporter)*

Rolling Gardener

Beth Lancaster, a Conway, Arkansas, junior started the school year with hopes of having a prosperous year in FFA. She had recently been elected junior advisor and was in the process of building a greenhouse for her horticulture project.

Her hopes were cut short though, after just four days of school, when she was involved in an accident in which another driver ran a stop sign and ran into her leaving her with two broken legs and a severe concussion. Her recovery was slow but sure because of her determination.

Her recovery was aided by regular visits by many FFA members. Soon after she returned home, Robert Grummer, chapter president and David White started building a greenhouse attached to her home. It was constructed so she could get around in her wheelchair.

With the help of Advisor Dale Thompson and others she continued her project in horticulture as well as kept up her school work in her horticulture class.

All this has a happy ending. Beth is now back into school and is walking again.

FFA'ers made her greenhouse so Beth could continue her horticulture work.

Diane Merrow, Eaton Rapids, Michigan, is an agri artist who has won ribbons for her unusual art made all with different color garden seeds like yellow or green split peas, black sunflower seeds, popcorn, lentils, or died beans.

Rodeo Pay Off

The Redwood, California, Chapter recently sponsored its first junior rodeo. The SJCA, Sequoia Junior Cowboys Association, sanctioned event was held at Shady Acres Arena.

Including spectators and contestants, over 500 people were in attendance. With the outstanding turnout the chapter realized a profit of over $1,000 including gate and concessions. All proceeds will go into the chapter's general fund, which finds its way to purchasing awards, giving project aids to FFA members and financing other activities.

The rodeo excitement and competition involved all the chapter's membership.

With the various assortment of events such as bull riding, calf riding, breakaway roping, calf roping, rescue race and goat roping, many FFA members got involved. A special goat tying session was also held to test the skills of any interested teachers. *(Kevin Matteson, Reporter)*

Something For Everybody

The Oxbow, Vermont, Alumni cosponsored a Farm, Home and Garden Show for the community.

The event featured a showing of farm, home and garden equipment by local dealers and businessmen. There were art and craft exhibits, plus a calf raffle (which raised $490.00).

Competition events were held in the area of farm products like legume and grass hay, corn and grass silage, potatoes, maple syrup and eggs. Home products classes were for breads, pies and fudge. The contests were judged by the FFA and FHA members.

From the $600.00 earned will come two $200.00 awards to seniors in FFA. *(Wendall Austin, Advisor)*

Kiddies Take Over Barn

Members of the Northwestern-Clark FFA of Springfield, Ohio, held the third children's farm day. Over 650 kindergarten, first grade and head start children visited the local farmers Gene Pencil and Donald Domers.

The children saw animals at each farm and several milked cows or bucket fed calves. Only one-fourth of them have been on a farm before.

On one occasion, there were 200 children in a barn at one time. FFA refreshments and favors completed the visits. Children came from six different county and city schools including a deaf children's class. *(Jon Berry, Reporter)*

Helping With Tractors

Members of Knoch, Pennsylvania, FFA and other friends of Daniel Sum, a hospitalized dairy farmer, prepared about 50 acres of ground for planting this year.

Mr. Sum has undergone brain surgery and is unable to perform the seasonal work of farming that must be done. As a result, full responsibility for operation of the dairy farm has fallen on a son, Daniel, 21. The Sums have 70 dairy cows.

FFA members who worked were Tammy Boos, James Halstead, Roger Renfrew and David Snyder.

Red, White, Blue Week

The Belen, New Mexico, FFA Chap-

(Continued on Page 56)

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EXPIRES NOV. 30, 1976

FFA in Action

(Continued from Page 55)

ter went all out in celebrating FFA WEEK. The whole week was kicked-off by a parade downtown on Saturday, February 21. Each class of vocational agriculture and horticulture had a float in the parade. The whole parade was based on the Bicentennial theme with floats depicting various historical events such as the Boston Tea Party, Liberty Bell, Betsy Ross making the flag, plus several floats showing the progress of agriculture and technology.

The progress of haying equipment was shown by parading horse drawn mowers and balers, then the present-day haying equipment such as wind-rowers, self-propelled balers, bale stackers, hay stackers and cubers.

One of the things that attracted the most attention was a red, white and blue cap that was worn by every FFA member during the week.

A basketball tournament pitting the different agriculture and horticulture classes provided nightly recreation for all of the members.

All the members who could grow a beard competed for prizes in a beard growing contest won by Ronnie Storey, chapter president. All members with baking skills competed in a cherry pie baking contest. This contest was won by Aimee Johnson. Tammy Chance placed second and Stephanie Ayers took third.

The pies baked were used on Friday to treat the high school faculty to pie and ice cream (the red, white and blue variety).

Wednesday was farmer day when FFA members dressed up as farmers. And to show that FFA members adapt to all situations Thursday was dress up day.

The whole week's activities were filmed in a 8mm movie. *(Eddie Vallejos, Reporter)*

Really Big Show

The Springs Valley, Indiana, Chapter created what they felt was a first in farm shows sponsored by a local chapter—especially a show the size and scope of theirs.

The Agriculture Weekend and Machinery Show was held February 28-29, 1976. Its purpose was to allow the public to become acquainted with agricultural products and equipment, and to allow dealers and company representatives to meet prospective farmers and display their products and services.

The chapter utilized the entire gymnasium facility, including two adjacent parking lots to the gym. Dealers and company representatives traveled as far as forty miles to be represented at the event.

Some of the companies included: Ford Tractor dealer, Hesston dealer, Massey Ferguson, New Holland, International, Farm Bureau CO-OP, Master Mix, Pioneer, Northrup King, Moorman's, Purdue University, local lawn and garden dealers, Madison Silo Company, truck dealers displayed pickups, ton trucks, and other models. The companies brought everything from handout materials to 130 hp tractors. *(Robert Guillaume, Advisor)*

Fun For FFA WEEK

The Colton, California, FFA Chapter celebrated FFA WEEK and invited any club on campus to participate.

Events were a hay stacking contest, a greased pig contest, a 1,200 pound tug of war, a milk drinking contest and a faculty showmanship contest.

One of the most successful was the faculty showmanship. There were five animals, one from each class of livestock. A shop instructor, a class counselor, two vice-principals and the school principal tried their luck.

Two members from each livestock group instructed the faculty how to show the animals and any other helpful information. Then, the livestock chairmen (beef, dairy, goats, sheep and swine) judged the teachers on how well they followed the instructions.

In the hay stacking contest, the FFA defeated a team of football lettermen for first place. Each team had six bales of hay. They had to move the stack 25 feet, then restack it. They could use any method they desired.

The greased pig was won by the Girls Athletic Association (GAA) and FFA won the 1,200 pound tug of war. In the milk drinking contest, the winner guzzled one half gallon of milk in 1 minute, 45 seconds. *(Gregory Colbert, Reporter)*

Merced, California, FFA members have taken to the air to spread their news. Each Wednesday at 7 a.m., they meet at KWIP radio station to tape their news. Writing is done ahead of time by a committee. The FFA show is aired the following Saturday after the noon news. Different members get a chance to do the actual taping each week.

Happy Helpers

Lending a helping hand and serving as a guiding light to the Burns, Wyoming, Chapter is the Central Laramie County FFA Alumni Association.

There are approximately 70 members.

FFA Alumni assisted the chapter by serving as judges for speech and creed contests. In March, Alumni members attended the State FFA Convention.

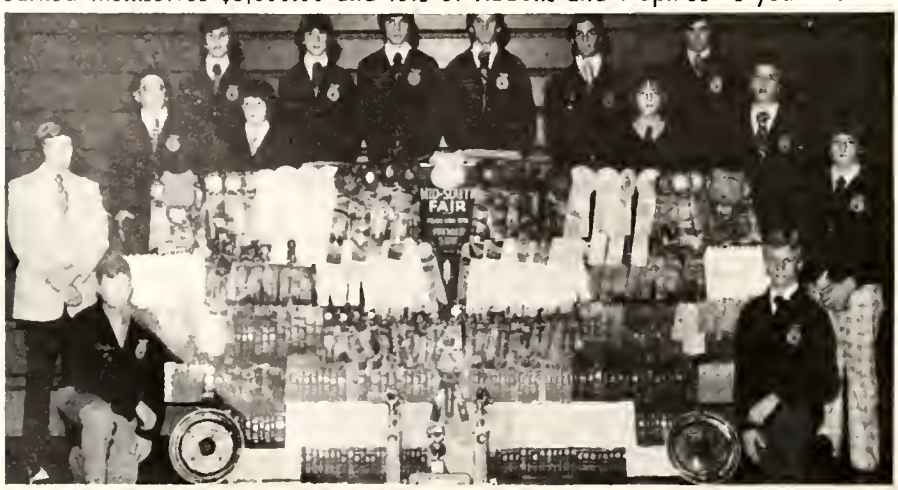
In May, the Alumni helped the FFA conduct a Tri-State Livestock Exposition in Kimball, Nebraska. They also provided transportation to the chapter's annual pig buying trip in Oklahoma.

A summer activity of the FFA Alumni was to send two Burns Chapter officers to the National FFA Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C.

Several FFA Alumni members have hosted the FFA on field trips to their farms and helped train the chapter's livestock and dairy judging teams.

In addition, throughout the year FFA Alumni members donated their time as substitute teachers when both vocational agriculture instructors were involved in another activity.

Dyersburg, Tennessee, members were active in the state's show circuit and earned themselves $3,600.00 and lots of ribbons and trophies as you can see.



Catch Big

(Continued from Page 20)

Catch of crappies made on 1/16-ounce white jigs with chenille-feather tails.

Yet a man standing beside me was hauling in a fish on practically every cast.

He was using an ultralight spinning outfit and was throwing a tiny white leadhead jig with a tail made of chenille and feathers. He would put the bait near the fast water, let it sink until his line went limp, then as he picked the jig off bottom, a white would clobber it.

Armed as I was with a plug-casting outfit, there was no way I could cast such a lightweight jig to near the current. So I had to improvise. I tied a big, heavy spoon on my line and behind it I added a trailer line of six-pound-test monofil about 18 inches long, and to this I attached a jig similar to the one my neighbor was using. With the weight of the spoon I easily could cast to the current and the heavy metal would hurry to bottom; yet when I began retrieving, the tiny jig danced along behind and white bass fought over it.

Sometimes to get additional weight for more accurate casts and also to make the bait plummet quicker, I will put a pinch-on sinker forward of the lure, but such weight should be at least eight inches up the line. Get it too close to the bait and it kills the action.

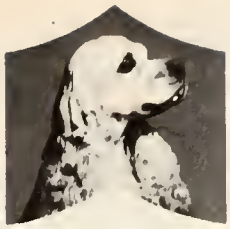
This husky largemouth black bass went for a tiny spinnerbait and was caught.

An alternative is to fish a pair of baits in tandem. This is very effective when using jigs, which do not tangle easily. Tie one on the end of the line and about a foot up add a short dropper with another jig. This doubles the casting weight, the baits sink more rapidly, and if you are in school fish, such as white bass or crappies, it isn't uncommon to catch two at a time.

But of all, the optimum option is to fish a tiny artificial on tackle designed for lures this size. With an ultralight spinning or spin-cast outfit, you are using almost invisible line that does not spook fish nor does it hinder the bait's delicate balance. And on this tackle, even a pound-sized specimen can cut all sorts of capers, yet if you are patient and don't apply any sudden jerky pressure, you can effectively subdue even big fish on line which tests no more than six pounds.

Try it. You will be surprised how easy this light tackle-small bait combination is to use. And watch your batting average on fish go up!

"I never would've voted him team captain if I'd known he was going to refer to us as his loyal subjects."



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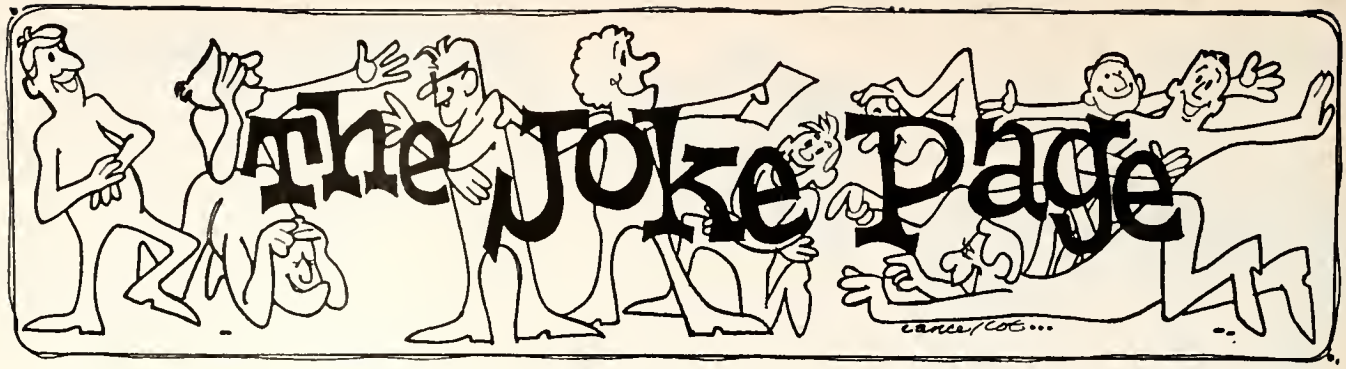

Little boy: *"Mother, I've done my good deed for today."*

Mother: *"What did you do?"*

Little boy: *"Six other boys and I helped an old lady across the street."*

Mother: *"Why six other boys?"*

Little boy: *"She didn't want to go."*

Don Watson
Danville, Alabama

"Next time you sign us up for a field trip at school, make sure you know who sponsors it."

Want Ad: *"Farmer, age 38, wishes to wed woman about age 30 who drives a tractor. Please enclose a picture of the tractor."*

Susan Keith
Centerville, Ohio

"My car and I have some bad habits in common," explained a man. *"We both drink, smoke, and have trouble getting started in the morning."*

Jay Ray
Rogers, Texas

Two old cows stood before a hole in a fence that led into a lush, green corn field. One cow turned to the other and said, *"Who's going to say graze?"*

Richard Parsons
New Market, Iowa

A man walked up to a vending machine, put in a coin and pressed the button labeled "Coffee and double cream." No cup appeared. Then two nozzles went into action. One sent forth coffee, the other, cream. After the proper amounts had gone down the drain where the cup should have been, the machine turned off. *"Now that's real automation,"* remarked the man, *"This thing even drinks the coffee for you!"*

Jeff Johnson
New Holland, Ohio

Teacher: *"Give me a sentence using the word 'fascinate.'"*

Tom: *"I have nine buttons, but I can only fasten eight."*

Jimmie Kolodziy
Falls City, Texas

A railroad section foreman was required for the first time to make out an accident report after a train struck a cow. He checked all the questions in the form only after careful deliberation. When he came to the last question, "Disposition of the carcass?" he scratched his head, took a last look at the dead cow and wrote *"I think she was kind of gentle."*

James Stephan
Arcanum, Ohio

The minister prayed so hard for rain that an ensuing downpour hurt the crops. *"That's what happens,"* growled an old timer, *"when you get a preacher who ain't familiar with agriculture."*

Kevin Townley
Ewing, Illinois

Notice on a church bulletin board: *"Work for the Lord. The pay is not much but the retirement plan is out of this world."*

Keith Block
Waubay, South Dakota

Phil: *"Did you hear that the Bureau of the Mint is now minting coins at a big new mint in Burbank?"*

Attie: *"No."*

Phil: *"Yeah, and it's only open from 6:00 p.m. to midnight."*

Attie: *"What?"*

Phil: *"I guess that makes it the world's largest after-dinner mint."*

Marilyn Bittner
Putney, Vermont

Farmer, plowing with one mule: *"Giddap, Pete! Giddap, Barney! Giddap, Johnny! Giddap, Tom!"*

Stranger: *"How many names does that mule have?"*

Farmer: *"Only one. His name is Pete, but he doesn't know his own strength so I put blinders on him, yell a lot of names, and he thinks three other mules are helping him."*

Ruth Moore
Liberty, Kentucky

Did you hear about the fellow who was so cheap that he bounded down the ramp of the plane which had just landed and grumbled: *"There's $2.50 worth of life insurance down the drain."*

Keith Block
Waubay, South Dakota

Charlie, the Greenhand

Joe: "Charlie, what in the world does this have to do with the song "America The Beautiful"?"

Charlie: "Why, can't you see? It's the 'Fruited Plain.'"

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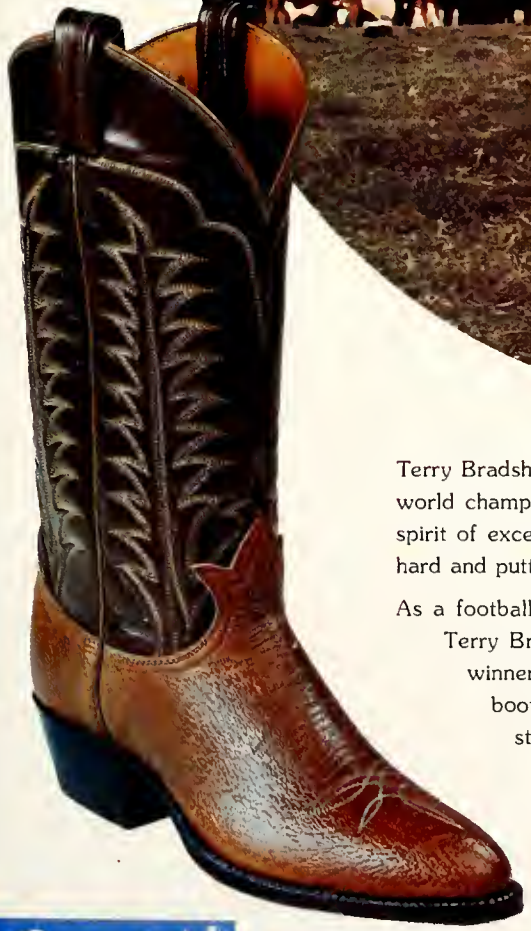
GET INTO THE TONY LAMA SPIRIT...

Terry Bradshaw's latest Country-Western hits include, "I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry" and "Making Plans."



Terry Bradshaw, professional football quarterback for the world champion Pittsburgh Steelers, has the spirit! It's the spirit of excelling at everything you undertake by working hard and putting in a lot of effort.

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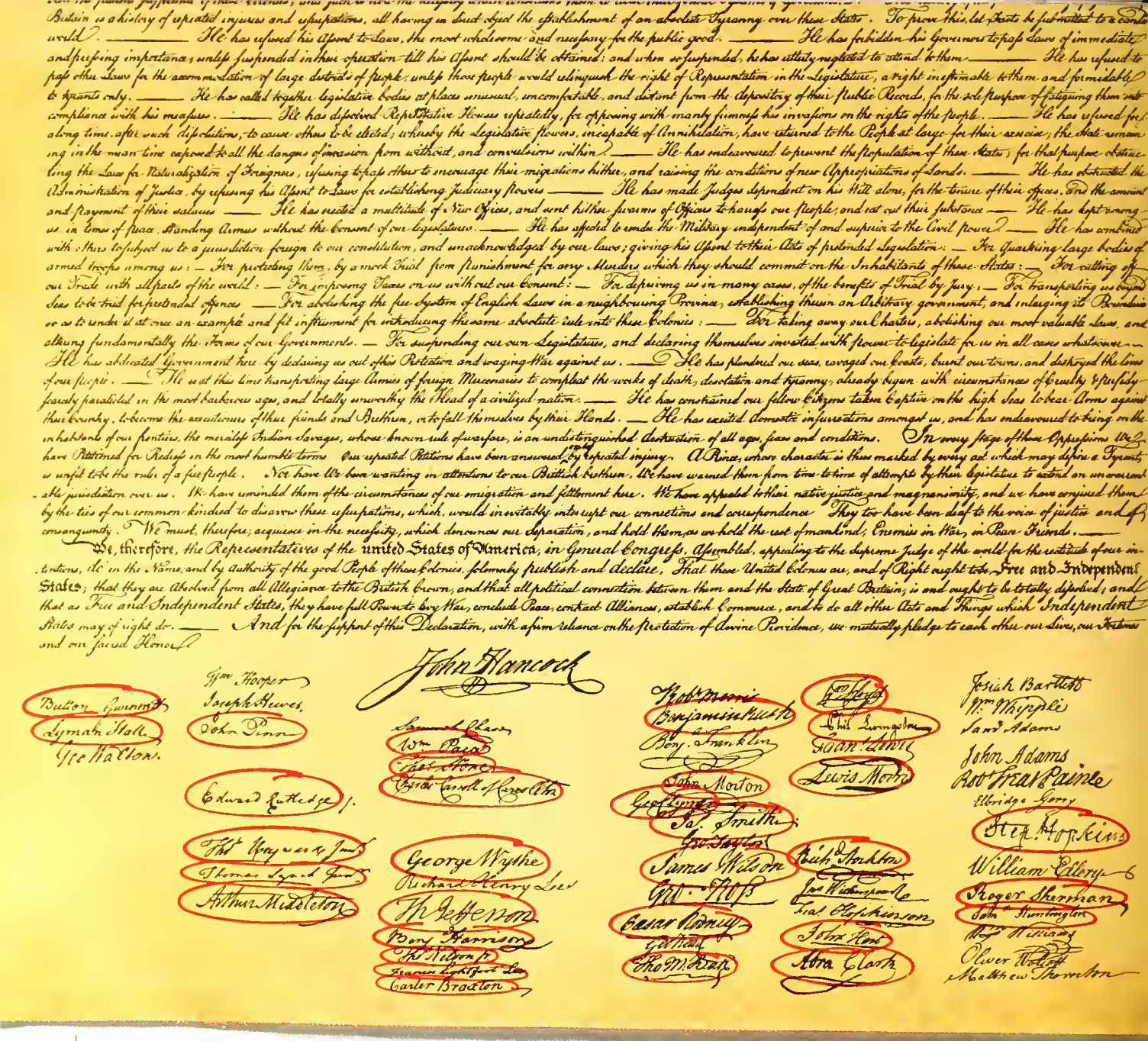

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More than half the signers of the Declaration of Independence were farmers: either farmers by birth or farmers by choice.

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It turned out that the stuff of farmers—pride, grit, independence—was the stuff of patriots. Farmers are indeed the bedrock on which this nation is built.

As another Fourth of July arrives—and with our bicentennial celebration in the air—we want to remind everyone of the leadership of farmers in launching America . . . and of their continuing vital role in sustaining our way of life and standard of living.

Farmers made this nation possible. Today they make it great.

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Keeping Faith with the Farmer... A Bicentennial Tribute

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